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OPINION METER

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The 2011 Environmental Expo kicks off at the American Memorial Park.

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Japan raises the severity level of its crisis at its crippled nuclear plant.

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A bloody standoff in Ivory Coast ends with the capture of its strongman.

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Neo Gold Wings revives casino plan

SHEFA under scrutiny

»Fund wants records of former consultants; Sablan files OGA request

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance in under scrutiny by the NMI Retirement Fund and former representative Tina Sablan and it is now in the middle of preparing all documents being requested by the two.

SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider said yesterday that the Fund issued SHEFA a subpoena on April 1 commanding its presence at a hearing involving its former consultants, William Torres and Jesusa Dris, on Friday.

The Fund also asked to make
See SHEFA on Page 4

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Neo Gold Wings Paradise Casino

& Hotel is again pursuing its abandoned Tinian casino project, this time with a planned investment of \$1.6 billion compared to a prior amount of \$1.2 billion.

- Wants to pursue \$1.6B Tinian casino project
- DPL not reinstating original land lease, other conditions

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'80 hours per payroll feasible if...'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said yesterday that the Legislature can help revive the 80 work hours per payroll and make the necessary salary adjustments for deserving government employees if only lawmakers work "cooperatively."

See PAYROLL on Page 4

9th Circuit Court affirms stay on AZ immigration law

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed yesterday the U.S. District Court of Arizona's ruling that blocked some provisions of the controversial Arizona immigration law, which the CNMI administration had supported.

In an 87-page opinion, the
See 9TH CIRCUIT on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

'WELCOME TO SAIPAN'

New Taiwan consul general to Guam, the CNMI and the Federated States of Micronesia Paul P.S. Wang, second row-center, makes a courtesy visit to the Legislature led by House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) and acting Senate President Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) yesterday afternoon, hours after a courtesy call on Gov. Benigno R. Fitial. Also in the photo are, first row from left, Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), and floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan). Second row, from left, are Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), Cabrera, Wang, Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Reyes, and director of consular affairs Bruce Hung. *See story on Page 6*

Inos, others off to Japan today on tourism mission. PAGE 3
CNMI rainwater, seawater test negative for radiation. PAGE 5

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Local

3-day Environment Expo kicks off at AMP grounds

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A total of 605 students from four public elementary schools trooped to the American Memorial Park to learn about the importance of taking care of the environment and natural resources during the 2011 Environmental Expo, which began yesterday.

Organized by the Division of Environmental Quality and the National Park Service, the three-day event is part of the celebration of Environmental Awareness Month this April and the National Park Week from April 16 to 24.

Government agencies and organizations set up booths and gave presentations to educate students about environment-related topics.

Among them were the DEQ, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Emergency Management Office, Fire Division, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Coastal Resources Management, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Energy Division, and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Corporate Affairs assistant Becky Tenorio of TSL Foundation, who gave students an overview of Tan Holdings' recycling program as part of its Going Green efforts, noted the importance of educating students about the environment at an early age.

"When you think about it, what they do today will determine how their life will be in the future," she said.



Corporate Affairs assistant Becky Tenorio of Tan Siu Lin Foundation explains the Going Green Initiatives of Tan Holdings during the 2011 Environmental Expo, which began yesterday at the American Memorial Park.

DFW Enforcement Section conservation technician Marvin Pangelinan, who had preserved Marianas fruit bats, hawksbill and green sea turtles in their booth, echoed this, saying the same should be done with the islands' wildlife.

"We may not have the wildlife we have now if we don't take care of them and enforce our existing laws that protect them," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lisa Eller, DEQ publications and outreach coordinator, said the expo is a great opportunity for students.

"The Environmental Expo is one of

the few opportunities for schools to meet all agencies involved with the environment," Eller told reporters.

Eller said the expo targets fourth and fifth graders since the topics are in line with the Public School System standards and benchmarks for those grade levels, although there were other grade level students who took part in yesterday's activities.

She said students from private elementary schools were also invited.

According to Eller, this year's event features a larger space and an extended

expo for up to three days instead of the usual two days to accommodate the availability of booths and presenters as well as more students.

"We're improving every year. It's an improvement over last year. We're just happy with the participation and there's more room in between visiting schools so that students can learn more and better," she said.

Park Ranger Nancy Kelchner said the funding for the awnings for the booths, the bus transportation for students, and lunch for volunteers came from the Pacific Historic Parks Association, formerly known as Arizona Memorial Museum Association.

"The Pacific Historic Parks was generous with their education dollars to afford us all these," she said.

Kelchner said there are 50 volunteer students from different high schools who will facilitate the course of the expo while learning about leadership skills and learning about the various presentations.

She noted that they moved the National Park Week celebration early because the original schedule coincides with the Holy Week celebration.

About a thousand more students from public and private schools are expected to be at the expo today and tomorrow, when the organizers host the recycling fashion show at noon.



Third grade students of San Vicente Elementary School under teacher Carlynn Attao listen to a Division of Environmental Quality staff as he talks about erosion during the 2011 Environmental Expo, which began yesterday at the American Memorial Park.

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This project is supported by Grant No. 2008-SW-AX-0001 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the authors(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



Inos, others off to Japan today on tourism, solidarity mission

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and three others will be leaving for Tokyo today for the Japan Marianas Tourism Club meeting tomorrow that will tackle travel opportunities and challenges, especially in the wake of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

The Japan Marianas Tourism Club meeting will be participated in by the CNMI's key tourism partners, who are expected to be briefed about ongoing and upcoming plans related to the CNMI tourism industry.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said that Inos' participation will help assure travel partners

»Rota mayor welcomes disaster victims

in Japan of the CNMI's willingness to open its doors as a temporary home for those affected by the Japan disasters.

Inos and Demapan will be joined by Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio and MVA board of directors chair Marian Aldan-Pierce at the JMTC meeting. The delegation will be back on Saipan on Friday.

Demapan and Inos separately said the trip will also help assure tourism partners in Japan that the CNMI remains a destination of choice for Japanese tourists.

Japan is the CNMI's main tourism market. The CNMI has

seen a drop in Japanese arrivals and group travel cancellations because of the disasters.

Inos, who was the acting governor when the March 11 Japan disasters hit, was the first government official to call on residents to open their homes to quake and tsunami victims.

On March 15, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Inos jointly wrote a letter to Japan Prime Minister Naoto Kan, offering their sincere condolences and profound prayers to the people of Japan.

Across the CNMI, fundraising activities have been held to help in the disaster relief and recovery efforts.

Demapan said yesterday that Fitial's special adviser for Japan Shigeyoshi Kato hand-delivered the letter to the prime minister's office.

'Rota willing to open doors'

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola's letter offering Rota as a temporary shelter for those who were affected by the Japan disasters has been printed in at least one newspaper in Japan.

In a translation of that news article, Mendiola was quoted as saying that Rota is willing to accommodate some 200 affected Japanese on the island and that he will be visiting Japan shortly.

him similar evidence via Federal Express.

"The defense hired him on this recommendation and credentials—not his citizenship," Berline said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Schuler, on behalf of the U.S. government, is opposing the request. He said there is no rule, law, or case known to him that requires the U.S. government to ship "irreplaceable, critical, and tangible evidence" to a suspect's consultant in a foreign country.

Taitano and co-defendants David Santos and Adrian Mendiola are charged with taking threatened species (Mariana fruit bats) in violation of the Endangered Species Act. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

The mayor said the people of Rota have learned many things from the Japanese and that Rota has benefited from Japanese tourist arrivals on the island. In that same article, the mayor was quoted as saying that he's

willing to support the victims of the Japan disasters by providing housing and food.

A month after the devastating quake and tsunami, more than 27,700 people are dead or missing in Japan.

4 students from tsunami-hit area will take part in Rotary exchange

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The student exchange program between the Rotary Clubs of Saipan and Hasaki will push through next month despite the earthquake, tsunami, and ongoing nuclear crisis in Japan.

International services director Kim Forrester said during yesterday's meeting that Yoiichi Matsumura of Pacific Development Inc. informed him via email about the participation of four Japanese students in the program slated for May 14 to 18. They are Mika Sunouchi, Yuki Oshima, Kie Inoue, and Umi Asazuma.

Forrester said these students are between 16 to 17 years old and have no power and water in their area.

Hasaki is situated in Chiba in the northeastern part of Japan, an area severely affected by the March 11 devastation.

"In spite of their situation, they have decided to continue with their exchange program," Matsumura said in his email.

According to Matsumura, the four high school students

will arrive on May 14 and take part in the Taste of Marianas.

The students, who will stay with their Rotarian host families for two nights, will participate in the SOPHIA/FIESTA Walk & Fun Run in the morning of May 15, with the afternoon to be spent with the host family.

On May 16, the students will visit Kagman High School before they are dropped at Saipan Grand Hotel where they will stay for another two nights.

The four students will pay a courtesy visit to the Rotary Club of Saipan during its fellowship meeting on May 17 and leave for Japan the next day.

Matsumura said PDI will sponsor the transfer and incidental costs and requested the Rotary to finance the students' lunch.

"Any assistance from Saipan Rotary Club will be greatly appreciated to keep this student exchange cost at a minimal," he said.

Forrester added, "We better get out and do what we can to help them."

IN BAT POACHING CASE

Defense: Empty shotgun shells not critical evidence

One of three suspected bat poachers argues that the empty shotgun shells collected by the U.S. government are not critical evidence and are not irreplaceable, in a bid to have them shipped to a firearms consultant in Canada.

Albert Taitano, through counsel Bruce Berline, said the actual shotgun shells allegedly found at the bat roosting sites on Rota no longer constitute "critical" government evidence in this case.

Berline said the U.S. government collected over 100 empty shotgun shells from three separate locations on Rota, then sent these shells from Guam to its forensic laboratory in Ashland, Oregon.

"Once received by the laboratory, the government's expert compared these shells with known test shells test-fired from shotguns seized by the police in this matter," he said.

Berline pointed out that because the naked eye is not able to accurately see and compare the minute detail needed to

make the comparison between the evidentiary shells and the test fires, the comparison is done under a stereoscopic microscope.

The expert, the lawyer said, places the two shells in the microscope and takes a picture of it. "These pictures are known as photomicrographs because the pictures show the two shells side by side in one picture in minute detail," he said.

Berline pointed out that it is these photomicrographs, not the shotgun shells, that the scientist will use at trial if allowed by the court.

Accordingly, Berline said, after the comparisons are done on the evidentiary shells and fully documented by the photomicrographs, the photomicrographs become the "critical evidence," not the empty shotgun shells.

He said the only remaining use for the empty shells are as demonstrative evidence.

Taitano wants to compel the

U.S. government to send these empty shells via Federal Express to his expert witness, Liam Hendrikse, a Canada-based tool and firearms identification consultant.

If Federal Express loses the evidence and is unable to locate it, Berline said the U.S. government can use any empty 12 gauge or .410 gauge shotgun shells as demonstrative evidence for the benefit of the jury.

Berline vouched for the Canadian consultant, saying that he works for the Los Angeles Police Department, conducting analysis for them on a regular basis wherein the LAPD sends

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Medicare allocates \$46.5 million nationwide

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has allocated \$46.5 million for the first installment of funding to State Health Insurance Assistance Programs to help

Medicare beneficiaries, and those who care for them, receive information and counseling about their health benefits and choices. Guam is one of 54 jurisdictions within the United States eligible

for these funds.

These grants are the first of two rounds of funding to be distributed to SHIPs in FY 2011. Performance grants will be distributed to SHIPs in September

2011 based on their performance and accomplishments in the prior grant year. Grant funding will allow SHIPs to expand and develop new strategies to strengthen their community-based

and grassroots networks. The SHIPs provide personalized, one-on-one counseling, information, education and outreach to help people understand their Medicare benefits.

“This grant will help educate Medicare beneficiaries about the benefits they are entitled to,”

said Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo. “The Affordable Care Act enacted significant reforms that have directly benefited our island. I encourage the Government of Guam to pursue this grant opportunity to provide further assistance to local Medicare beneficiaries.” (PR)

NEO

From Page 1

The Department of Public Lands is supporting Neo Gold Wings’ renewed interest in the development and will negotiate a new public land lease, rather than “reinstate” the previous lease as requested by the investor.

Kwi Dong Woo, vice chairman of Neo Gold Wings Paradise Holding USA Corp., said they will be paying in full their past due account in unpaid land leases with DPL.

DPL asked Neo Gold Wings to vacate the Tinian public land in August 2010 for non-compliance with the terms and conditions of the land lease, and pay \$106,043.64 in unpaid land leases at the time.

Woo also said that Neo Gold Wings will make a one-year advance payment of land lease as required by a new DPL policy.

DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta, in an interview yesterday, said the department is also re-

quiring Neo Gold Wings, along with other new investors, to deposit \$3 million in an escrow account at a bank in the CNMI.

‘To reinstate or not’

DPL terminated Neo Gold Wings’ lease on 300 hectares of public land on Tinian in August 2010 for non-payment of monthly rental since the latter part of 2009.

The groundbreaking was held in July 2009, but monthly land rental payments have not been paid.

Neo Gold Wings had planned to build an ambitious “six-star” hotel casino on a 300-hectare public land.

Woo wrote a letter to Babauta on April 5, saying that they will “pay in full” their delinquent account, “together with the one-year advance payment” as DPL stated in its prior letter.

He said because the proposed magnitude of the project is “very big” and has been recently increased from \$1.2 billion to \$1.6 billion, Neo Gold Wings

wants DPL to “reinstate” the original land lease.

Woo said this will pave the way for Neo Gold Wings to “proceed with our plans and start working on our project [on] Tinian.”

Babauta, in a response letter to Woo yesterday, said DPL supports the proposed development and “will be able to negotiate a new lease when our office receives the requirements mentioned in our recent letter.”

“The original lease unfortunately cannot be reinstated,” the DPL secretary said.

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian), when asked for comment yesterday, said as long as the investor shows sincerity in pursuing the project and is a legitimate investment, then the CNMI should give consideration to Neo Gold Wings.

“Considering the circumstances, the CNMI is having difficulty luring foreign investors. Why do we have to be picky at this time when the investors are coming in (or coming back)? As long as

the investment is legitimate and the investor is showing sincerity, I don’t see reason to give them a hard time,” he said.

Conner said Tinian officials met with DPL on this matter. At the time of the meeting, there was no decision yet from DPL whether to reinstate or not Neo Gold Wings’ previous land lease.

Any lease of public land consisting of more than 5 hectares requires legislative approval.

The three other members of the Tinian Legislative Delegation—chairman and Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian), along with Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) are currently in China at the invitation of another Tinian casino investor, Bridge Investment Group.

\$3 million deposit waiver request

Neo Gold Wings is also asking DPL to waive the \$3 million in advance deposit in a CNMI

bank. Woo said Neo Gold Wings wants to use this money instead to “jumpstart” their project on Tinian.

“We definitely need your assistance and consideration in allowing us to spend this money on the project instead of just sitting idle in an escrow account,” Woo told Babauta.

Babauta said the \$3 million deposit in a FDIC bank in the CNMI is a new requirement that DPL is “willing to negotiate.”

But Babauta said DPL “cannot waive entirely at this time” this \$3 million deposit.

The DPL secretary also asked Neo Gold Wings to provide new information on the company’s development plans in light of the \$4 million increase in project investment.

Unpaid rentals

Woo told Babauta in his letter that Neo Gold Wings was not able to keep up with its payment schedule on the past due amount “due to a lot of travels we had to make to other foreign coun-

tries...to meet with numerous prospective investors.”

These trips included those to Vietnam, Cambodia, numerous cities in China, Macau, San Francisco, New York, and Korea.

“It was imperative that we entertained those prospective investors from other countries who have expressed interest in joining our company,” Woo told Babauta in his two-page letter of April 5.

It was not only Neo Gold Wings that had abandoned its project in the CNMI, although it is the only one that has so far expressed interest in pursuing its project.

Flame Sako Resort & Spa’s planned \$80-million hotel in As Matuis/San Roque also failed to secure financial commitments from investors or financing institutions, and the project fizzled out.

Other groups of investors have since approached DPL to lease the same area also for hotel projects.

SHEFA

From Page 1

available several documents, including all procurement records relating to the negotiation, execution, maintenance, payment, and renewal of all contracts with Torres or his company, Marianas Pacific Network; and Dris or her company, Dris Student Services. The agency wants to access all records of any sole-source contract approved for the former SHEFA consultants.

The Fund also asked for other records, including all telephone and message logs, travels, in-

voices issued to the two, and attendance, among others.

The Fund subpoena was signed by administrative hearing officer Edward Manibusan.

The Office of the Public Auditor had instructed the Fund in April 2008 to look into whether Torres and Dris, both retirees, were double-dipping—or collecting both their pension payments and salaries from government. This is prohibited under the CNMI retirement law.

The OPA audit was performed at the request of then lawmaker Justo Quitugua.

Saipan Tribune learned that the administrative hear-

ing on Friday is related to the appeal submitted by both Torres and Dris to an earlier Fund decision.

Documents obtained by *Saipan Tribune* showed that the specific records being requested by the Fund will help prove or disprove the Fund’s belief that both Torres’ and Dris’ sole or primary client was SHEFA during the period of time in question while under the guise of an “independent contract.”

SHEFA has had contracts with both Torres and Dris since its inception in 2004. The two got \$40,000 each. It

was only last year when the new SHEFA board decided not to renew both contracts, citing the financial constraints of the government.

During yesterday’s meeting, board chair Jose Mafnas welcomed the Fund request, saying that SHEFA will practice transparency in its operation under his leadership.

“We want to be transparent and anybody can ask [for our records]. I believe that it would be good to the people of Saipan,” he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Besides the Fund, former representative Tina Sablan also filed an Open Government Act

request for several documents.

Hofschneider confirmed receiving Sablan’s request on March 28.

Sablan, in her letter to Mafnas, said she wants access to documents detailing the legal professionals and attorneys that were hired by SHEFA from January 2008 to date. She also asked for all service contracts with independent contractors, sole source approvals, invoices, and other records, among others.

Hofschneider said, however, that SHEFA has no files on agreements, contracts, and documents. “Our search for the requested records turned up

empty-handed,” he said.

“After searching through SHEFA’s records, it became apparent that no such agreements, contracts, documents, etc., were available,” said Hofschneider, adding that probable reasons for this is either no contracts were executed or SHEFA did not keep and maintain these records.

SHEFA earlier disclosed that it spent over \$396,000 for professional services since the program’s inception in 2004. These professional services were mainly fees paid to consultants. All these funds were sourced from the yearly SHEFA operations budget of \$100,000.

PAYROLL

From Page 1

“With the budget submission at \$102 million, which is much lower than the current year, my goal is still to give back 80 hours to employees,” he told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview at his office.

He said only by working to-

gether, the House and the Senate will be able to stop the 16-hour cuts per payroll and implement pay adjustments.

“I’m hoping that all the members will work cooperatively, put their minds together and focus,” he added.

But while Cabrera didn’t want to disclose his specific plan, other members said the speaker

may have been referring to legalizing casinos on Saipan.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), however, said before he left for China last week that the Senate will kill any new Saipan casino legislation bill if it is put to vote today.

Cabrera also said by working together, lawmakers will be able to help ensure that deserv-

ing employees will be given within-grade increases and merit increases, as well as finally implement the provision of Public Law 10-76 on “frozen steps.” This law allows eligible employees to receive 5 percent pay differential adjustment.

“And lastly, we will be able to have up to \$35 million, to my knowledge, of unpaid land com-

pensation if we work cooperatively and collectively,” he said, adding that they also need to pay government obligations to retirees.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial asked senators for the very first time last week to “keep an open mind” on casinos on Saipan as projected revenues have gone down.

The fiscal year 2011 projected revenue of \$132 million, for ex-

ample, has been reduced by \$10 million, while the proposed budget for 2012 is only \$102 million.

But legalizing casinos on Saipan has become a divisive issue, including at the Legislature. A House bill on Saipan casino passed the House last year, only to be killed by the Senate, which wants Saipan voters to decide on the issue.

9TH CIRCUIT

From Page 1

Ninth Circuit ruled that the U.S. District Court of Arizona did not abuse its discretion by stopping the enforcement of four provisions of S.B. 1070 (Arizona immigration law).

“We affirm the district court’s preliminary injunction order enjoining these certain provisions of S.B. 1070,” according to the opinion penned by Judge Richard A. Paez and concurred by Judge John T. Noonan. Judge

Carlos T. Bea issued a partial concurrence and partial dissent.

In his concurrence, Noonan said that 50 individual states or one individual state having a foreign policy is an absurdity too gross to be entertained.

“In matters affecting the intercourse of the federal nation with other nations, the federal nation must speak with one voice,” Noonan said.

Arizona enacted its own immigration law enforcement policy, S.B. 1070, in April 2010, in response to a serious problem of unauthorized immigration along

the Arizona-Mexico border.

A day before S.B. 1070 was to take effect, on July 28, 2010, U.S. District of Arizona Judge Susan Bolton issued a preliminary injunction that blocked the most controversial provisions of the law that include requiring verification of immigration status, arrest for failure to carry immigration papers, making it illegal for an illegal immigration to solicit work, and allowing a warrantless arrest for a potentially removable alien.

According to Bolton, these provisions are all pre-empted by

the federal immigration law.

The Obama administration sued Arizona on July 6, 2010, to block the law. It asserted that the Arizona immigration law usurps the federal government’s “pre-eminent authority” under the U.S. Constitution to regulate immigration.

Obama stated that the Arizona law has the potential of violating the rights of innocent American citizens and legal residents, making them subject to possible stops or questioning because of what they look like or how they sound.

Nine U.S. states, joined by the CNMI government, appealed Bolton’s preliminary injunction to the 9th Circuit in September 2010.

CNMI Attorney General Edward Buckingham approved supporting the brief filed by Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox that supported Arizona’s immigration law. Also joining the Michigan brief were Florida, Alabama, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and Virginia.

In their appeal, Cox cited three reasons seeking the reversal of Bolton’s preliminary

injunction against Arizona’s immigration law.

Buckingham also approved the CNMI joining in the appeal.

Human rights advocate Wendy Doromal in her Unheard No More blog, said the 9th Circuit’s ruling is a victory for human rights and the Obama administration.

“Hopefully, it will stand as a deterrent to states with Republican governors who are threatening copycat legislation. Clearly, the Arizona law [and the CNMI’s P.L. 15-1078 and PL 17-1] are preempted by federal law,” Doromal said.

CNMI rainwater, seawater test negative for radiation

Analyzed samples of CNMI rainwater and seawater tested negative for radiation materials, even as Japan raised yesterday its crisis declaration at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant that puts it on par with the 1986 Chernobyl disaster.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, a member of the CNMI

Nuclear Response Task Force, said they received yesterday the results of the analysis from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency laboratory in Alabama.

"No radionuclides were detected in the rainwater and seawater samples that we sent them," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Sampling rainwater for radio-

active contaminants during an emergency is one way to help public health officials ensure that food and water supplies are safe for the public, EPA said.

In the event of a serious nuclear power plant accident, radioactive material may be released into the environment. Some of this radioactive mate-

rial attaches itself to dust particles in the air and can be carried long distances in the wind. When these particles are caught in precipitation, e.g., rain or snow, they are deposited directly onto the ground. After landing on the ground, they may potentially contaminate drinking water sources and growing food supplies, EPA said.

Demapan, at the same time, said that Japan's decision to raise the severity level of its Fukushima nuclear power plant does not affect the level of preparations and monitoring in the CNMI.

"That's because our preparation is for worst-case scenario," he said.

CNN reported that an expert believes the declaration has no immediate practical impact on the crisis but it's a sign

that Japanese regulators have rethought their earlier assessments of the disaster.

Meanwhile, a RadNet deployable unit that EPA installed on Saipan in March continues to indicate that only "background radiation" is present in the atmosphere.

EPA's RadNet radiation air monitors across the U.S. show typical fluctuations in background radiation levels. The levels detected are far below levels of concern.

IN CELEBRATION OF MES MAN'AMKO

Man'amko to host talent show in May

The *man'amko* at the Aging Center are gearing up to showcase their talents and skills in a talent show slated next month in celebration of *Mes Man'Amko* or Older Americans Month.

The "*Man'Amko* Amazing Talent Show," which will feature musical and dance performances as well as stand-up comedy acts, will be held on May 13, from 7pm to 8pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Tickets for the talent show, which are limited, cost \$10 each.

Walter Manglona, program coordinator for the Aging Center, said the talent show is the first of its kind for the elderly population and will serve as an opportunity for them to take pride in their abilities and skills.

Manglona will serve as the producer and director of the talent show.

Proceeds of the show, Manglona

said, will be used to enhance the various programs offered for all congregates at the Aging Center.

"I ask the community to help support our *man'amko*. They really need your help and I know you will enjoy the show," he said.

Other activities lined up in celebration of *Mes Man'Amko* include the *Man'Amko* Takeover Day, pool tournament, "Voices of Angels" karaoke contest, and the 2011 *Man'Amko* King & Queen Fund-raising coronation, which will cap the monthlong celebration.

This year's *Man'Amko* King candidates are Robert Dela Cruz, Carlito Hernandez, Manuel Mesa, Jess Pangelinan, and Jose I. Torres. The Queen candidates are Pacita Angeles, Isabel Bodiogay, Meryalen Conrad, Hermene Faisao, Sia Muna, Emerenciane Reyes, and Terry Sitae.

Tickets for the King & Queen

raffle are \$1 each and \$5 per six-ticket booklet. Exciting prizes, including the grand prize of \$500, await the lucky winners for the raffle draw.

For more information, call any members of the Saipan Seniors Advisory Council members at 233-1320 or 1321 or visit them at the Aging Center. (Clarissa V. David)

Man on probation is caught smoking 'ice'

A former CNMI probation officer who is on federal probation after completing a 30-month prison term for extortion has admitted smoking methamphetamine or "ice" recently.

In a report filed in federal court, U.S. Probation Officer Maria C. Cruz stated that Robin N. Sablan was subjected on March 24, 2011, to a drug test that resulted positive for "ice" use.

Cruz said that Sablan, when

questioned about the drug test result, admitted smoking "ice" on March 23, 2011.

Cruz said that on March 25, 2011, U.S. Probation Officer John San Nicolas II conducted a non-compliance meeting with Sablan and instructed Sablan to refrain from any further drug use.

Cruz asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI that no action be taken as Sablan will be

monitored and any further incidents of noncompliance will be reported to the court.

In September 2008, the district court imposed a 30-month prison term on Sablan for extortion under color of official act.

The U.S. government said that, while then on duty as CNMI probation officer, Sablan extorted money from many probationers. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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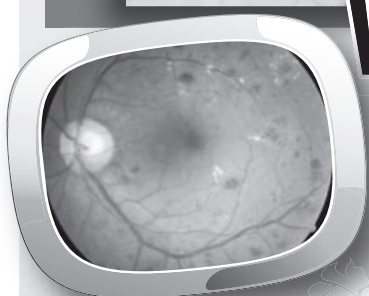
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Hart negotiates contract with NMC board

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The process of hiring the next president of the Northern Marianas College is nearing its end, with the Board of Regents saying that negotiations with Dr. Sharon Hart is progressing.

Board chair Juan Lizama told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Hart responded to the college’s

offer on Monday, a day before her April 12 deadline.

Hart was offered the position after the regents’ first pick, Dr. Christa Adams, withdrew her application.

The board offered Hart a two-year contract with \$80,000 annual pay, not including benefits. The contract calls for termination only with cause.

Lizama confirmed that dur-

ing a Skype conversation on Monday, Hart asked him for more time to negotiate the contract offer.

Lizama called for a meeting with board members yesterday to apprise them about some “concerns” that Hart raised with him.

He said Hart has provided the regents a summary list of “concerns” and “conditions” that she wants included in her con-

tract. Lizama described these concerns as more in the nature of clarification about some language in the contract, including housing benefits, vacation privileges, and other matters.

The board intends to stick with the \$80,000 salary offer, Lizama said, but they may adopt some considerations for the next president. “But still, it’s all up to the board members to decide,”

he added. In every contract offer, “there’s always room for negotiation.”

The board is expected to announce its decision about the matter within the week.

On top of the \$80,000 salary, NMC provides its president an \$800 monthly housing allowance, which Lizama said may be adjusted if there’s a need to do so. He pointed out, though, that a relocated candidate might not immediately understand that leasing a house on island has be-

come cheap due to the slumping economy.

NMC has had no permanent president since January 2010 when the board suspended, and later terminated, Dr. Carmen Fernandez.

Saipan Tribune learned that Hart is presently on a short-term contact with the University College of the Caribbean since January 2010 where she is serving as deputy president. She is in Jamaica with her husband, Steve, and 13-year-old son, Micah.

New Taiwan consul general pays visit to Saipan

Taiwan’s new consul general to Guam, the CNMI, and the Federated States of Micronesia, Paul P.S. Wang, made separate courtesy visits to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and the Legislature yesterday.

Wang, who is director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam, said it was his first time to come to Saipan, and he expects to have more to strengthen ties between the CNMI and Taiwan.

“I will do my best to promote the relationship between the CNMI and Taiwan,” he told *Saipan Tribune*, after a meeting

with lawmakers led by Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) and acting Senate President Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) yesterday afternoon.

Cabrera said lawmakers are hoping that the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam will help bring in investors and tourists to the CNMI.

Bruce Hung, director of consular affairs, accompanied Wang to Saipan.

Wang and Hung met with the governor yesterday morning.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said during Wang’s brief visit, the governor asked him to look

into the possibility of opening an office in the CNMI similar to that of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Guam.

“Governor Fitial believes that having such an office on the ground would help strengthen economic ties between the NMI and Taipei. Wang had pledged to continue upholding the harmonious relationship the CNMI enjoys with China,” Demapan said.

Wang, whose career in diplomatic relations spans some 30 years, replaced Vince W. H. Tsai in December last year. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**

Mafnas re-elected SHEFA board chairman

Jose C. Mafnas was chosen once more by his colleagues to chair the board of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance

program.

Mafnas was voted board chairman by acclamation during yesterday’s meeting. This is his second term as board chairman following his appointment in November last year.

Named board vice chairman is newly confirmed member Josephine Sablan, while new board member Vina Saures was voted as board secretary and treasurer at the same time.

The board currently has four members: Mafnas, Sablan, Saures, and Ursula Aldan. Another re-appointed member, John Tenorio, is scheduled for confirmation by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation this week; he

will complete the five-member board slate.

Mafnas said he is confident the addition of Saures and Aldan to the board would be a great asset to the agency.

“I know both of them and I am sure they are assets to this board. I want to welcome and thanked them for accepting the challenge,” said Mafnas.

Mafnas is the former customs chief and is currently the Administrative Services Division director of the Department of Finance.

He was appointed to the SHEFA board to replace former member Rep. Felicidad Ogu-moro, who resigned on Nov. 1, 2010. **(Moneth Deposa)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

McDonald’s Saipan donated \$5,000 yesterday to the Northern Marianas College Foundation. From left, administrative assistant Rose Leon-Aguon, president and owner Joe C. Ayuyu, general manager Marcia “Ruri” E. Ayuyu, and NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta.

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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 9, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-004 (A – D)

“GROUNDS MAINTENANCE OF NMHC’S PROPERTIES (LISTING A-D) IN SAIPAN”

Proposal packets will be available on April 4, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. on April 14, 2011, at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Section 8 Multi-Family Account.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

AMENDMENT #01 INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 21, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-006

“REHABILITATION OF THE SUSUPE SPORTS COMPLEX TELESCOPIC BLEACHERS & FLOORING”

(Amendment #01 is to (1) amend mandatory pre-bid conference from 10:00 a.m. on Monday, April 18, 2011 at the proposed project site in Dandan, Saipan to 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011 at the proposed project site at Susupe Sports Gymnasium Complex Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan; and, (2) amend the bid submission date on April 25, 2011 – 10:00 a.m. to April 21, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.)

Proposal packets will be available on April 12, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier’s check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at the proposed project site at the Susupe Sports Gymnasium Complex – Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

AMENDMENT #01 INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 21, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2010-015

“REHABILITATION OF THE DANDAN HOMESTEAD CHILDREN’S PARK”

(Amendment #01 to reflect time of mandatory pre-bid conference will be 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at the proposed project site in Dandan, Saipan.)

Proposal packets will be available on April 12, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by credit card, money order or cashier’s check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at the proposed project site in Dandan, Saipan.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: APRIL 14, 2011 * TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2011-003

“PURCHASING OF FIRE PROTECTION & LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENTS FOR THE DIVISION OF THE TINIAN FIRE STATION”

Proposal packets will be available on March 21, 2011, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier’s check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 25, 2011, at the NMHC Tinian Field Office, Songsong Village, Tinian.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ, F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0033
Plaintiff,	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
-v-	
THERESE LIZAMA SALAS,	
Defendant.	

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff’s attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP, 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:
/s/ Clerk of Court

Dated this 17th day of March, 2011

Edward Buckingham
Attorney General
David Lochabay
Assistant Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
Hon. Juan A. Sablan Mem. Bldg., 2nd Fl.
Caller Box 10007 CHR8
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-2341
Fax: (670) 664-2349

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0080
Calvin Barnhart	NOTICE OF HEARING

Hearing Date: April 26, 2011
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Judge: Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja

Please take notice that a hearing will be held in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Room 205, House of Justice, Beach Rd., Saipan, CNMI, at 1:30 , p.m., on April 26, 2011, concerning the Probate of Wills and Petition for Letters of Administration for the Estate of Decedent Calvin Barnhart, signed on March 17, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated this 17th day of March, 2011.

/s/ David Lochabay
David Lochabay, Bar No. F0305
Asst. Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE OF SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission will conduct a special business meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Friday April 15, 2011 at Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome. Reports and other documents relevant to the agenda will be available at the meeting for public inspection. Questions regarding the agenda should be referred to the law office of Robert T. Torres, Esq. Plata Drive [Whispering Palms] Chalan Kiya – 670-234-7859/5750.

AGENDA

- Call to order – quorum
- Approval of minutes of November 16, 2010 and January 5, 2011 meetings
- Docket 09-1 – CUC Electric Division.
 - Hearing Examiner’s report and Commission Decision:
 - Electric base rate increase
 - LEAC rate [April 16 – September 30, 2011]
 - Residential lifeline rate
 - Telesource change order #5
 - Other procurements
- Docket 10-1 – CUC Water and Wastewater Divisions.
 - Investigation of the adequacy of rates
- Docket 11-1 – Telecommunications
 - Authorizing Resolution – Application of GTA Services LLC
- Administrative business:
 - Administrative Order — staff invoice protocol
 - Commission authorization to conduct business
- Other business

'It's time to get involved in the fight against sexual violence'

Program coordinator Kiki Igitol of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence talks about the need to support sexual assault awareness and prevention efforts during the Rotary Club of Saipan yesterday. Looking on are NMCADSV board member Reina Camacho and Rotary president Glen Perez.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

About 77 percent or two out of three cases of rapes and sexual violence are committed by an individual known to the victim.

"It is very true and revealing that most of the perpetrators are either a family member or a close friend," said program coordinator Kiki Igitol of the Northern Mari-

anas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.

Igitol, who was one of the speakers at the Rotary Club of Saipan's meeting yesterday, said that shame, fear, and stigma are the main reasons why 60 to 80 percent of victims do not report sexual assault cases.

"Victims can't easily speak out and disclose their trauma, with fear that they will get serious re-

percussions from their family and from society," she explained.

According to Igitol, the stigma arises from a culture that considers reporting a taboo and blames the victim for their predicament.

Igitol stressed that sexual violence is a serious crime that affects the physical, emotional, mental, and social well-being of victims.

"We all have a personal respon-

sibility to end sexual violence and we urge every member of our community to join the movement in creating a CNMI free from sexual violence and all types of violence in general," she said.

Reina Camacho, coalition board member, said there are different ways to get involved in the sexual assault awareness efforts like the gift of service or volunteering and through financial support, such as buying tickets for the raffle draw for the Safe, Aware, Free Empower or SAFE Jamboree.

"It is one of the biggest activities we have where we will have

booths, exhibits, games, and entertainment. You can bring the whole family," said Camacho.

The SAFE Jamboree is slated for April 30, from 2pm to 9pm, at the Koblerville Youth Learning Center and Basketball Court.

It will feature a Walk Against Sexual Violence, a FIBA 33 basketball competition, a Rock Against Sexual Violence Concert, and a raffle draw for a chance to win exciting prizes.

"Your \$1 can go a long way to help stop sexual assault and domestic violence in the community," added Camacho.

The SAFE Jamboree will cap

the observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month this year, which marks its second consecutive year in the community.

This year's theme, "It's time...to get involved," aims to encourage every community member to speak out and condemn this underreported crime.

"Our goal is to encourage everyone in the CNMI to learn about sexual violence, how to help prevent sexual violence, and how to help survivors of sexual violence heal," said Igitol.

For information about SAFE Jamboree, call 234-3878 or email safejamboree@gmail.com.

Marriage Encounter sets Weekend Reunion

The CNMI Chapter of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter graduated 28 new couples from the Spring Weekend, which took place on April 8-10, 2011. The presenting teams consisted of Vince and Hilma Castro, Fr. Isaac Ayuyu, Mike and Jeanne Emry, and Julian and Marcia Calvo.

The Marriage Encounter community will be having a Weekend Reunion on Thursday, April

14, 2011, starting at 6pm, at the Aqua Resort Club's Rey Lounge. For newly encountered couples, this is your final presentation of the Weekend. For encountered couples, come meet the new couples! Please bring your dialogue books and a potluck dish to share. For more information, contact Russ and Kanae Quinn at 287-0318. (PR)



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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW11-RFP-007

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING DESIGN OF TEXAS ROAD, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Preliminary Engineering Design of Texas Road** on Saipan, commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, Article 7, "Local Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with § 70-30.3-305 of the Procurement Regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certification of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Florence C. Sablan, Executive Director, at (670) 664-4807/4809 or Fax (670) 664-4813.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **April 06, 2011** at the DPW, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan. A Non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill Office. A Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Gualo Rai Office at 10:00 A.M. on **April 25, 2011**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho**, Acting Director, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **April 28, 2011**.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (resumes and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor or another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. **Qualifications of the Principal and assigned staff-30%**
2. **Experience of the Firm(s) on similar type projects-30%**
3. **Project Approach-20%**
4. **Schedule of Completion-20%**

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW11-RFP-007". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, **May 05, 2011**. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, **May 05, 2011** and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, **May 05, 2011** and must be received no later than **May 16, 2011** (CNMI Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the responsible proposers who submit proposals determined to be most reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purposes of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. A fee shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architectural and Engineering firms at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the Government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then another firm may be selected in the order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed. Award will be made to the responsible proposer whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the CNMI Government taking into consideration price and the evaluation criteria set out in this RFP. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

The successful proposer will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All response to this RFP shall take in to account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLON
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director, Procurement & Supply



U.S. NAVY/COREY HENSLEY

USS *Frank Cable* commanding officer Capt. Thomas Stanley participates in a ribbon cutting ceremony with Guam National Wildlife Refuge director Joseph Schwagerl, and Dededo Vice Mayor Andrew Peter Benavente.

Guam wildlife refuge unveils new trail

By COREY HENSLEY
MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 3RD CLASS

DEDEDO, Guam—Sailors assigned to the submarine tender USS *Frank Cable* gathered to celebrate a trail dedication ceremony at the Guam National Wildlife Refuge on April 8.

It took 148 sailors and their spouses several months and seven visits to cut a nature trail through the refuge. The nature trail provides the people of Guam and tourists with access to one of the last remaining pieces of native jungle left on the island.

Frank Cable chaplain, Lt. Allen Fleming, has been the driving force behind the project. He motivated the sailors into volunteering on the mission of working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to complete the trail.

"I was looking for something meaningful for us to do," said Fleming. "I thought this is something our sailors would benefit from. I wanted them to be able to see and experience a part of the island, its culture and ecology, that being down on this end [Santa Rita] you don't get to see."

Fleming said that another objective he had in mind when putting this project together was to get sailors off the ship and into the wild to do some old-fashioned physical labor. Helping the GNWR shave 14 years off what would have been a 15-year project, Fleming said *Frank Cable* sailors have risen to the challenge.

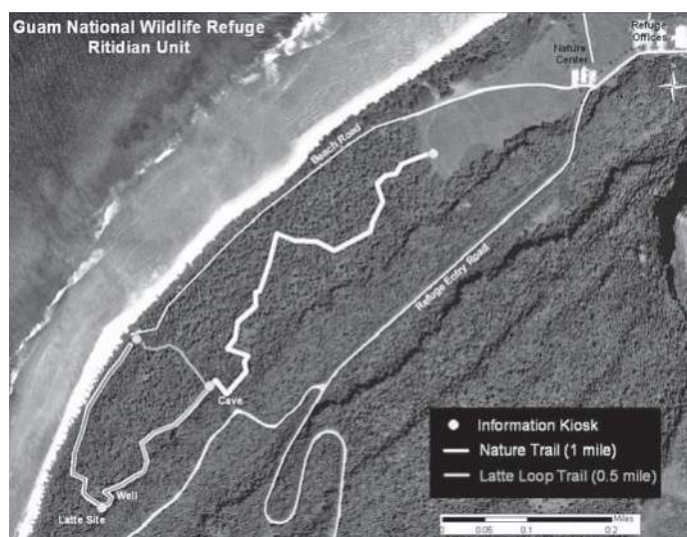
During the ceremony, *Frank Cable's* commanding officer, Capt. Thomas Stanley, dedicated the USS *Frank Cable* Trail, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognized the efforts of the 148 volunteers and their families.

"The amount of work that we accomplished in a fairly short period of time was really amazing," said Christian Eggleston, a biologist at GNWR. "It was going to be a really daunting



U.S. NAVY/COREY HENSLEY

At the Guam National Wildlife Refuge, USS *Frank Cable* staff chaplain Lt. Allen Fleming shows off the Frank Cable Trail information kiosk built by sailors onboard.



task for us to do without some help. So when Chaplain Fleming came up and offered to give us a hand on some projects, it really worked out perfectly."

After the ceremony, the trail was opened to all visitors to explore the 4,000-year-old latte site, and the caves where ancient Chamorro people once dwelled.

"We also have a kiosk that [Frank Cable] provided for us, and that's one of the stopping points on the trail for people to

look and get to see a true latte site," said Eggleston. "We're going to have a nice map or drawing of what the latte site used to look like when it was being used by ancient Chamorros."

The trail's completion has also made it possible to reach a 500-year-old coconut grove. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service hopes to properly manage the grove's native plant species, in addition to managing the population of brown tree snakes and

wild boars that have invaded the area. With controlling the brown tree snake, they should be able to re-establish the population of the local bird species.

"That was a primary concern," said Fleming. "That it is something meaningful for our sailors and the people of Guam."

GNWR was established in 1993, to protect and recover endangered species, protect the habitat, protect cultural resources, and provide recreational and educational opportunities to the public.

In the future, Fleming hopes the trail will be a recognized attraction, and that *Frank Cable* sailors will have a devoted interest in the maintenance of the trail.

"I hope to see it used by the locals, and the native people, who want to go out and rub shoulders with history," said Fleming. "If it's used, I'm excited, and I feel like we've done all we can do."

Frank Cable conducts maintenance and support of submarines and surface vessels deployed in U.S. 7th Fleet area of Responsibility.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 13, 1999

CUC to lower govt power rate

The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has scheduled public hearings next week regarding the adjustment of government electric rates. The board voted several months ago to adjust or merge the government rates with the commercial rates. Right now, the government pays the highest rate of 20 cents per kilowatt-hour, while commercial rates are only 16 cents. The board approved a move to merge the government rates back in line with commercial rates, but cannot go through with the action until public hearings are held on Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

Teachers demand change in work contract

Teachers of the Public School System, who are planning to leave the CNMI in June, are asking Commissioner of Education Rita H. Inos to waive the 10 percent liquidated damages contained in their employment contract. In an open letter circulated during the Board of Education meeting held at Oleai, teachers considered this provision in their contract as a penalty and should not be enforced. This provision allows PSS to hold 10 percent from the last salary of employees who have resigned to pay for any fees incurred while both parties are completing the clearance requirement.

April 13, 2000

DOT to help NMI in luring airlines

The Philippine government will have to negotiate with the United States to allow the Armenian Airlines to establish direct service between Saipan and Clark Air Base in Pampanga province, just north of Manila. Rep. Rosiky Camacho, chair of the House Public Utilities, Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, disclosed from Washington D.C. that the U.S. Department of Transportation is willing to help the CNMI facilitate the entry of the carrier in order to improve air service on the island. But before the application is approved by DOT, the U.S. government must secure authority from Philippine officials on behalf of Armenian Airlines to operate the charter flights to Saipan, he said.

Investigate Outer Cove Marina project—Reyes

Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes has asked Rep. Bobby Guerrero, chair of the House Commerce and Tourism Committee, for a joint oversight hearing into the controversy surrounding the construction and use of the Outer Cove Marina. Protesters of the current system in place in the marina yesterday met with him and Senate President Paul A. Manglona to air their concerns anew, but said they want the oversight to hasten resolution of the dispute that has already affected commercial operations in the area for the past 18 months. Mr. Reyes said he wants Mr. Guerrero to chair the joint hearing to be conducted by both houses. "I am confident that legislative intervention will facilitate the early resolution of a very urgent and nagging problem," he said in a letter to the House member.

April 13, 2001

NMI inflation rate stands still at below 5 pct.

The CNMI continues to enjoy a relatively low inflation rate confined within the annual average of below five percent despite dramatic slowdown in economic activities brought about by the trickling number of international visitors into the islands since 1998. During the period covering the years 1991 to 1997, the commonwealth registered an annual inflation rate average of 4.98 percent, according to the Department of Commerce. While the closure of close to 2,000 business establishments since 1998 posed threats of higher consumer prices, the CNMI economy managed to prevent dramatic increased in commodity prices, allowing the inflation rate to stand still at below five percent.

Pact eyed to settle govt contributions

A firm agreement that will pave the way for the prompt payment of government contributions should be set up immediately to prevent a possible inflation of remiss accounts. NMI Retirement Fund earlier junked recommendations made by the Office of the Public Auditor to consider charging interest on overdue accounts receivable. According to Fund officials, there is an understanding between the Department of Finance and the NMIRF that payments will be made every two weeks for the most delinquent pay period contributions. But NMIRF disclosed plans to change the present arrangement with the finance department to prevent greater possibility of bigger contribution payments.

Suspect in stabbing, robbing of deliveryman, arrested

Police arrested Monday night the man who allegedly beat up, stabbed, and robbed a deliveryman at a store in Chalan Kanoa last week.

Police served the arrest warrant on Joseph P. Kapileo, 30, in As Lito, on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, aggravated assault and battery, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Bail was initially set at \$50,000 cash. He was taken to the Superior Court yesterday afternoon for initial court appearance.

Police have already identified Kapileo's two male juvenile companions when the robbery happened. It was not clear whether the juveniles were also arrested.

Hua Ming Zhang, a driver/delivery man of Feng Ze Corp., sustained two deep lacerations on the left forearm that required 31 stitches after Kapileo allegedly stabbed him with a knife at LF Market on April 5 at noon.

Detective Melissa H. Bauleong stated in her report that she received Thursday, April 7, a message to meet with a witness.

Bauleong said the witness claimed seeing Kapileo grabbing Zhang's cell phone and breaking it.

The witness also stated hearing Kapileo tell his two companions who were waiting outside the LF Market that he was going to beat up the Chinese national. The witness and his family then left the area.

Bauleong said that officers picked up one of Kapileo's companions for an interview about the incident. The companion reportedly admitted that he was with Kapileo and another juvenile that day.

The companion said that Kapileo, who was drunk at the time, beat up the victim and stabbed him twice on the left arm with a pocket knife.

The victim said his wallet containing \$400 cash and driver's license was also stolen. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Former Saipan student to be inducted into honor society

A former Saipan student will be inducted into the Estrella Vista Elementary School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society in Avondale, Arizona on April 26.

Trianna Babauta Reyes, a former student at William S. Reyes Elementary School, is one of 10 eighth graders to be inducted into the honor society, along with four seventh graders from her school.

Reyes, who was born and raised on Saipan and is the granddaughter of Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta, will be a freshman next year.

"I congratulate our granddaughter, Trianna B. Reyes, fondly called 'TJ', for being nominated and for her induction into the National Junior Honor Society, and this congratulation is from the entire family from Saipan," Babauta told Saipan Tribune.

Estrella Vista Elementary School principal Michael Haley and adviser Carrie Edwards, in their letter, said membership in the National Junior Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a student.

"Our chapter of NJHS has worked hard to bring the accomplishments of outstanding students to the attention of parents, teachers, peers and the community. Our chapter, along with more than 6,000 chapters in schools across the nation, strives to give practical meaning to the Society's standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character," Haley and Edwards said.

They said the standards used for Reyes's selection were a 93-percent cumulative average in the area of scholarship, and her leadership, service, citizenship and character as demonstrated by activities and teacher evaluations. (HVE)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trianna Babauta Reyes, a former student at William S. Reyes Elementary School, will be inducted into the Estrella Vista Elementary School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society in Avondale, Arizona on April 26.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YOUTH SENATORS

Members of the incoming 13th CNMI Youth Congress pose with House Speaker Eli Cabrera, rear right; Rep. Edmund Villagomez, front left; Rep. Joseph Palacios, rear left; Fr. Jesse Reyes, rear, third from left; and Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP Reyes, front right, after attending their inaugural Mass Saturday, April 12, at 6pm at the San Jose Church. The youth senators' formal oath of office is slated on Saturday at the House chamber on Capital Hill.

NOAA, FWS accepting comments on Marianas marine monument

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are now accepting public comments as they prepare a monument management plan for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

Comments are being accepted though May 5, 2011, and should be sent to Heidi Hirsh, Natural Resource Management Specialist, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814. E-mail: Heidi.Hirsh@noaa.gov.

"This is a small, but important step forward in developing the full potential of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument," said CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan. "The people of the Northern Mariana Islands were supportive of establishment of the Monument and expect its development could have a positive economic and environmental affect. I am sure that the public will be fully engaged in this process at every step of the way."

"The Marianas Trench Marine National Monument was established by President Bush in 2009," said Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo. "The monument protects endangered marine ecosystems by prohibiting commercial fishing and establishing guidelines for responsible fishery-related activities. Public comments will assist NOAA and FWS in addressing our community's concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the future management of the monument. I encourage all stakeholders including fishermen, recreational boaters, and other interested parties to provide their input to this important management plan."

The monument spans over 480 miles and incorporates approximately 95,216 square miles within three units in the Mariana Archipelago and contains some of our nation's most unique and pristine marine environments.

For more information, visit www.fpir.noaa.gov/MNM/mnm_index.html or www.fws.gov/marianastrenchmarinemonument. (PR)

SHIPPING SCHEDULE



MARIANA
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Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENTOSA	053E	4/2 Sat	3/31 Thu	3/31 Thu	3/29 Tue	3/26 Sat	4/8 Fri	4/4 Mon	4/3 Sun	3/27 Sun	3/27 Sun	4/4 Mon	4/8 Fri	4/10 Sun	4/12 Tue
MELL SARACA	044E	4/9 Sat	4/7 Thu	4/7 Thu	4/5 Tue	4/2 Sat	4/15 Fri	4/11 Mon	4/10 Sun	4/3 Sun	4/3 Sun	4/11 Mon	4/15 Fri	4/17 Sun	4/19 Tue
MELL SEMAKAU	015E	4/16 Sat	4/14 Thu	4/14 Thu	4/12 Tue	4/9 Sat	4/22 Fri	4/18 Mon	4/17 Sun	4/10 Sun	4/10 Sun	4/18 Mon	4/22 Fri	4/24 Sun	4/26 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	054E	4/23 Sat	4/21 Thu	4/21 Thu	4/19 Tue	4/16 Sat	4/29 Fri	4/25 Mon	4/24 Sun	4/17 Sun	4/17 Sun	4/25 Mon	4/29 Fri	5/1 Sun	5/3 Tue
MELL SARACA	045E	4/30 Sat	4/28 Thu	4/28 Thu	4/26 Tue	4/23 Sat	5/6 Fri	5/2 Mon	5/1 Sun	4/24 Sun	4/24 Sun	5/2 Mon	5/6 Fri	5/8 Sun	5/10 Tue
MELL SEMAKAU	016E	5/7 Sat	5/5 Thu	5/5 Thu	5/3 Tue	4/30 Sat	5/13 Fri	5/9 Mon	5/8 Sun	5/1 Sun	5/1 Sun	5/9 Mon	5/13 Fri	5/15 Sun	5/17 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SENTOSA	053E	4/16 Sat	4/17 Sun	4/17 Sun	SKIP	4/20 Wed	4/22 Fri	4/24 Sun	SKIP	4/29 Fri	4/30 Sat	5/5 Thu	5/24 Tue	5/8 Sun
MELL SARACA	044E	4/23 Sat	4/24 Sun	4/24 Sun	4/26 Tue	4/27 Wed	4/29 Fri	5/1 Sun	SKIP	5/6 Fri	5/7 Sat	5/12 Thu	5/31 Tue	5/15 Sun
MELL SEMAKAU	015E	4/30 Sat	5/1 Sun	5/1 Sun	SKIP	5/4 Wed	5/6 Fri	5/8 Sun	SKIP	5/13 Fri	5/14 Sat	5/19 Thu	6/7 Tue	5/22 Sun
MELL SENTOSA	054E	5/7 Sat	5/8 Sun	5/8 Sun	5/10 Tue	5/11 Wed	5/13 Fri	5/15 Sun	SKIP	5/20 Fri	5/21 Sat	5/26 Thu	6/14 Tue	5/29 Sun
MELL SARACA	045E	5/14 Sat	5/15 Sun	5/15 Sun	SKIP	5/18 Wed	5/20 Fri	5/22 Sun	SKIP	5/27 Fri	5/28 Sat	6/2 Thu	6/21 Tue	6/5 Sun
MELL SEMAKAU	016E	5/21 Sat	5/22 Sun	5/22 Sun	5/15 Sun	5/25 Wed	5/27 Fri	5/29 Sun	SKIP	6/3 Fri	6/4 Sat	6/9 Thu	6/28 Tue	6/12 Sun

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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EDITORIAL

Obama's moral obligation to detainees regardless of their immigration status

Francisco Castaneda spent nearly a year locked up in Southern California immigration detention centers while fighting his deportation case. During that time, the Salvadoran national pleaded with the medical staff to treat painful lesions on his penis. He filed grievances about the quality of care and even sought outside help. Department of Homeland Security health officials responded by giving him Ibuprofen and denying his request for a biopsy because it was considered "an elective procedure." He was released in 2007, and within days was diagnosed with penile cancer.

If Castaneda had been an inmate assigned to a "supermax" prison instead of an immigrant held in a detention center, he would have been likely to receive treatment quickly. Instead, he died a year after he was released, at age 36. On Thursday, federal officials agreed to pay \$1.95 million to settle a wrongful death suit brought by Castaneda's family. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement admitted in court that its negligence led to his death.

Late last year, in response to this and other cases, the Obama administration began overhauling the system to ensure that all detainees in federal custody—including asylum seekers, refugees and legal permanent residents, as well as those being deported for illegal entry—receive basic medical care. It may seem obvious that detainees are entitled to such care, as are convicted criminals in jails and prisons across the country.

But consider some of the stories of the 118 immigrants who have died in federal custody since 2003. A transgender Mexican immigrant with AIDS, for instance, was denied medications for weeks. An elderly Haitian preacher seeking asylum in the United States had his blood pressure medication confiscated. A tailor from Guinea who became incoherent after a fall in his cell was placed in solitary confinement instead of being given medical attention.

The Obama administration eliminated the bureaucracy that had required prior approval from a Washington office for any outside care. Now, onsite doctors and nurses have the power to order biopsies, ultrasounds or dental exams without waiting weeks or months.

It's a positive step, but not enough given past failures. The Department of Homeland Security should make all existing detention system rules legally enforceable regulations. In the case of medical treatment, such a change would hold immigration officials accountable for providing basic care, including immediate medical and mental screenings. And it would allow detainees to protest substandard healthcare and appeal the denial of care.

President Obama did not create the detention system. He does, however, have the power and the moral obligation to ensure that all detainees are treated fairly and humanely, without regard to their immigration status.

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times



Social experiment: Know thy neighbor

When I was growing up in upstate New York in the late 1950s and '60s, people didn't exercise in public the way they do now. You didn't see adults jogging, biking or power-walking on the street.

Except one. Nearly every day, a middle-age woman of slight build walked rapidly through our suburban neighborhood, usually with her head down. No one knew her name, so we called her the Walker. She usually wore a simple blue or yellow dress, if memory serves, and when it rained she would wear a clear plastic raincoat with a hood pulled over her head. In the winter I recall a long, cloth coat, also with a hood; in driving snow she'd cover her face with a scarf.

Forty years later, when I'd moved with my wife and children back to what had been my parents' home, I was amazed to see the same woman still walking through the neighborhood.

Resolved, finally, to meet her, I approached her one afternoon in 2003.

"Excuse me," I began. "I've lived on this street a long time and have always noticed you walking."

Up close, she looked older, smaller and frailer than I had imagined.

"Yes," she said. "I've been walking here a long time."

Her voice was shaky, but she spoke with a clear diction. She said she'd walked in the neighborhood almost every day since 1960.

"You've walked on our street every day for more than 40 years?" I asked.

"I didn't miss many," she said, smiling.

"In just one more year, I'll be 90," she added.

Her name was Grace Field.

In answer to my question, Grace said that in all the years she'd been at it, few people had stopped to speak with her.

I was, at the time, writing a book about how Americans live as neighbors and asked Grace if she'd be willing to talk with me about that. She agreed, and a few days later, I met her at her home. It turned out she lived in an apartment nearby. She'd never married, lived alone and walked each day, she said, for exercise.

Among the things I learned about Grace was that as a young woman she had studied at the Juilliard School and was an accomplished harpist and pianist.

What a waste, I thought; if only we'd gotten to know her, Grace might have made an interesting friend. Maybe she even could have given music lessons to children in the neighborhood.

I had not been particularly interested in neighborhoods until about 10 years ago when a tragedy occurred on my street: One evening, a man shot and killed his wife and then himself; their two middle school-age children ran screaming into the night. The kids soon moved to their grandparents' house in another part of town. What struck me about this event—besides the tragedy—was that a family who had lived on my street for seven years had, in essence, vanished overnight. Yet the effect on my neighborhood seemed slight. No one, including me, knew the family well. In fact, as far as I could tell, no one seemed to know anyone beyond a casual, superficial level.

I asked myself: Do I live in a community or just in a house on a street surrounded by people whose lives are entirely separate from

By **PETER LOVENHEIM**
Los Angeles Times

Peter Lovenheim lives in Rochester, N.Y., and is the author, most recently, of In the Neighborhood: The Search for Community on an American Street, One Sleepover at a Time. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



my own? And I wondered: What if I could deliberately get to know these strangers on my street—know them in a meaningful way—what would I learn and how might it change the neighborhood?

Admittedly, the methodology I stumbled upon—sleeping over at my neighbors' houses—seems eccentric. In practice, though, it worked well. Fully half the neighbors I asked—after we'd gotten to know each other through initial interviews—said yes. And the connections forged did help transform strangers into friends and a disconnected group of people into something more resembling a community. When we discovered, for example, that one neighbor, a single mom, had breast cancer, we patched together a group of neighbors to drive her to doctors and help watch her kids after school.

In this age of cheap long distance, discount airlines and the Internet, when we can create community anywhere, why do neighborhoods still matter? They matter because we are all mortal, and if we have an emergency, a friend even 10 minutes away may be a friend too far.

They matter because all our resources are finite, and if you're baking a cake at night and have to drive to the supermarket for a bottle of vanilla—as one of my neighbors confessed she recently had done—instead of borrowing from the person next door, you're wasting gas, energy and your own valuable time.

They matter because our society is too fragmented, and if we want to start rebuilding a healthy civil society by learning to understand and live peacefully with people whose ideas about religion, morality and politics may be different from our own, a very good place to start is with the people in our own apartment building or on our own block.

And neighborhoods matter because the people closest to us may be able to enrich our lives in ways we'll never know unless we actually know them. That strange lady who studied at Juilliard and who walked through my neighborhood daily for forty years? I wish she'd been my piano teacher; knowing I'd be seeing her every day, I might have practiced more.

For me, getting to know my neighbors was a kind of social experiment, a journey of discovery down my own street. Most neighbors, I came to understand, want more or less the same thing: to live among others with a sense of common humanity, expressed through a willingness to know and be known. To achieve that, you don't have to sleep over. You just need to pick up the phone, send an e-mail or knock on a door. Chances are pretty good the person on the other side will welcome you.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Creepy two-headed snake

Demagogic politicians and their marshland reed loyalists are back peddling casino. Their vision is now limited to their obsolete black and white TV sets, convinced it's fitting to perpetuate a failed industry on Saipan.

Solution? Open your eyes and begin cutting down government expenses that are right before your eyes. Let's see you meet the challenge of walking the talk.

A retreat would permit complete visibility of this industry to the south that has gone Deep South. Burying your heads in the sand hoping they disappear before midnight can't ignore the failure inherent under these sets of facts. And you're out to promote ignorance, for maybe the pay is good from someone who bankrolls your wages and expenses as to brave ignoring the decision of governance that shot down this proposal twice.

It seems we've never learned from history's lessons in order that we retreat and realign paradigms so that what we undertake in subsequent days have lasting benefits to our community. It confirms our proclivity or tendency for ad hoc planning (doing things by eventuality) rather than planning for eventualities.

No wonder we never had any plans or blueprint to work on. No wonder we constantly run into the shock of our lives because we never give ourselves the benefits of the long thoughtful process of planning for the future, however gradual it may be. But the long thoughtful process is a surer ticket to acquiring lasting results. Sadly, though, we've adopted the instant soba mindset as the order of business rather than the exception.

Who would be our clientele? Japan, our primary market, is too occupied rebuilding the mind-numbing devastation of the recent Fukushima earthquake. Not only would it take about 20 years to fulfill reconstruction, its graying population won't be able to travel as they did in the '60s. This aspect of the market requires reinvention.

Chinese players would head to Macau and Singapore. The two venues offer what's known as thunderbird service that includes world-class entertainment where champagne bottles are popped the minute you

board your flight. Here, the biggest service we've rendered tourists is the Ladrões Coconut package by robbing them around hotel streets and remote places. There's a helluva difference between a glass of cold champagne and a glass of faucet water at DPS.

Koreans have their own casinos. Would they rush out here to explore the mystique of the Ladrões Coconut package to their peril? We can't even get our house in order and we expect to do well on a much more sophisticated industry that feeds the ego and pockets of demagogic politicians while robbing our people of their last peace of mind?

I was a member of the Marianas Gambling Commission in 1979 and have seen who benefited from it while 99.9999 percent of local population yawn, wondering what the beast is all about. Greed kicked in, the simple folks were miffed as to soundly defeat the measure by an overwhelming majority. Please, be kind to yourself, Mr. Legislator, and grant us the peace of mind never to repeat history!

■ ■ ■

Woeful hits from all corners

We're getting hit on all fronts. The price of oil has just reached \$112 per barrel. The domino effect sends the price of gasoline soaring beyond \$5 per gallon. Food prices have also gone up while income goes flat or declines as austerity is imposed by both sectors. The worse is yet to come as the feds cut a good slice of entitlement programs beginning this year. Is the ship of hope anywhere in the horizon?

It means we must strengthen fiscal discipline by wearing our badge of frugality as work begins on serious ocular review of all expenses. It means real resolve to cut down expenses on excess baggage. You see, pro-casino peddlers have asked what's our alternative? Definitely it isn't in the establishment of casinos here. They wanted instant miracles or gratification.

But if you listen a bit more, then the obvious answer will present itself: Zero in on expenses with your sharpest machete. This would permit our living within our means. A lot of the usual paradigms would also have to change until all the chicken out in the

Two presidents, one fateful decision

KINGSTON, R.I.—The sesquicentennial of the firing on Fort Sumter reminds us of the enormity of the decision facing Abraham Lincoln and his opposite number, Jefferson Davis, that fateful April in 1861. Going to war is the gravest choice a president can make, and doubly so when the conflict is civil war.

In that confrontation it was Davis and not Lincoln who made the decision to fire the first shots of what proved to be the bloodiest war in American history. But many of Lincoln's critics, then and later, argued that he had led the country into war, which was not true. What he had done, as more astute observers recognized, was maneuver Davis into firing the first shot.

The same charge of deliberately leading the nation into war while claiming otherwise has been hurled at another president, Franklin D. Roosevelt, both at the time and by some historians. Here the setting was not a civil war but a global conflict on the most colossal scale yet witnessed.

It is ironic that this same accusation has been attached to two men who are widely considered to be not only two of the best presidents the country has ever had but also the most politically savvy leaders ever to hold the office. Their reputations rest in large part on their handling of the crises that confronted them, and on the leadership they displayed both before and after the first shots were fired.

At first glance the two men would seem to have little in common. Physically the two men could not have been more different. Lincoln was tall, thin and gangly, with ugly, oversized features that often wore a melancholy air. Roosevelt had in effect two bodies thanks to his polio affliction—a powerful upper torso with long arms set on undersized legs shrunken by years of paralysis. Both men had large heads. Roosevelt's features were more regular and pleasing, and his manner was smoother and more polished than the country politician who was not above playing the bumpkin to sophisticates.

Both men liked to laugh and tell stories; humor was for them catharsis and a tool for deflecting or evading. Although Lincoln was even better than Roosevelt at reading other men (but not women), both excelled at concealing their innermost selves. Lincoln managed this by wearing an impenetrable air of mystery, Roosevelt by displaying so many contradictory elements in his nature that no one could add them up satisfactorily.

They shared a genius for politics and may well have been the two greatest politicians in presidential history. Lincoln came from

humble origins and pulled himself up by his own bootstraps; Roosevelt was the product of old-line American aristocracy. Lincoln spoke with the twang of the prairie, Roosevelt with the cultured accent of an upstate New York aristocrat. Yet both men possessed an uncanny ability to connect with that most familiar yet elusive American, the common man.

Conservative by nature, the two men relished the simple truths of eternal verities. They believed in the Almighty but did not attend church except on rare occasions. One had to overcome a physical handicap, the other the more subtle but no less real disadvantage of being a nobody with no formal education. Roosevelt was a Harvard man who had held a variety of offices at the state and national levels; Lincoln came to the presidency with an absurdly thin resume that included only one lone term in the House of Representatives and time in the Illinois state legislature. Both men aroused deep emotions in others ranging from undying devotion to blind hatred. They shared a gift for language and metaphor as a way to get their message understood.

Most pertinent of all, both men came to office at a pivotal moment in the nation's history. Lincoln triumphed over his crisis, the gravest in American history, but did not survive it. Roosevelt failed to solve the Great Depression, then had to faced yet another, potentially greater threat. Like Lincoln, he did not live long enough to see the final victory.

Both men had hoped fervently to keep the nation out of war. Lincoln failed in this task for reasons that went beyond his ability to control. So did Roosevelt, though his path to war was much longer and more convoluted than Lincoln's. Where Lincoln had barely six weeks as president to deal with a dividing nation, Roosevelt endured 27 months of an already existing war in Europe before Pearl Harbor.

What the two men shared above all else was their understanding of a harsh truth that could not be spoken and was almost impossible for lesser men to confront. Far from wanting to lead the nation into war, they came increasingly to realize that entry into conflict could not be avoided. If that were so, the single most important factor became how the country went into the fight.

In particular, it was crucial that the other side fire the first shots. Only in that way would the nation enter the war united and determined to see it through. Both succeeded in this goal and endured the setbacks that followed as the necessary price to ensure later victory.

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



wild field of extravagance have come home to roost. It's a matter of realistic perception and responsibility and unless we have both to hone fiscal discipline, we'd be going around in circles interminably. Let's buckle down and get to work. The deepening financial crisis is worsening by the day. We need our energy to think outside the box to save ourselves from ourselves.

■ ■ ■

The NMI has had a long history of pining for quick fixes over hard work. We wanted reintegration with our southern neighbor because of the \$1 an hour minimum wage. But we were shot down soundly at the plebiscite. Next came the US/NMI political status negotiations in 1972. We were so enamored and paralyzed by the seven-year guaranteed funding we decided to hone our *mañana* syndrome to the hilt. In short, we have been snoozing long and hard on the job. It's always about the \$\$\$\$!

Most of what we've done revolves around a story of a plan for a trip but can't move because nobody could find the keys. So each of the folks went around looking under the driver's chair, beneath the hood, glove compartment, around the vehicle, in the house, including the playground. After awhile, someone pointed at the keys lodged in the ignition and said, "It's been here all along!" What's the moral of the story? Self-inflicted disorientation where we disregard engaging the brain before we open our mouth! *A'Saina asi'i i ti mamachum na kakagoñg mame!*

By **MAURY KLEIN**
The Free Lance-Star (Fredericksburg, Va.)

Maury Klein (mauryk1@cox.net) is professor emeritus of history at the University of Rhode Island and the author of 15 books, including Days of Defiance: Sumter, Secession, and the Coming of the Civil War. He wrote this for The Free Lance-Star in Fredericksburg, Va.



Lincoln inherited the situation at Fort Sumter with its unexpectedly tight timetable. The garrison under Maj. Robert Anderson was far more short of supplies than the new administration had been led to believe. The dilemma facing Lincoln was as stark as it was dangerous. If the garrison did not receive supplies, it would soon be starved out and the last remaining federal presence in South Carolina would be lost. If that happened without a shot being fired, it would enhance the prestige of the new Confederacy and bolster its chances for foreign recognition. It would also deal northern morale a severe blow and boost the influence of those willing to let the South depart in peace.

The alternative was to send supplies and/or more troops to reinforce the garrison, thereby signaling Washington's determination not to yield the fort. If this was done, the supply flotilla might well have to fight its way into Charleston harbor. Lincoln's brilliantly elegant solution to the dilemma was to send Davis a message informing him that relief ships would be sent to resupply the garrison only with necessities; no attempt would be made to put more troops into the fort, and the supply units would fire no shots unless attacked.






A messenger carried this note to Davis well before the relief ships approached Charleston harbor. It cleverly transferred the burden of decision from Lincoln to Davis. If the ships were allowed to resupply the fort, the Confederacy would appear weak and indecisive, and the crisis would continue indefinitely. If the ships were fired on, or the fort attacked before they arrived, Davis would have started a war on Lincoln's terms.

In deciding to attack the fort, Davis chose the lesser of two evils facing him. The South took its stand, and the North, as Lincoln had hoped, rallied to the union cause. Eighty years later, the attack on Pearl Harbor also united a deeply divided people as nothing else could have done.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°	▲ 87° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 82 ▼ 78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Majuro	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 77

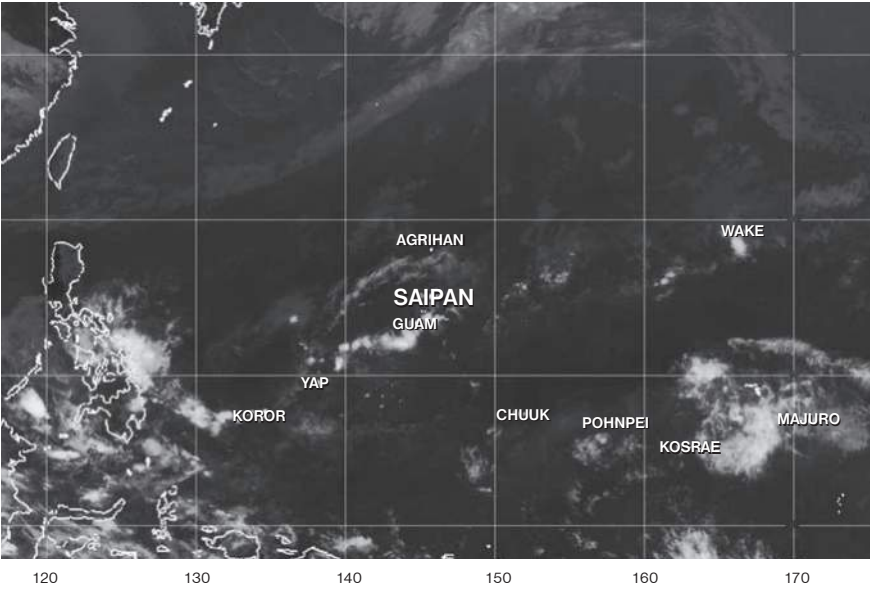
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69 ▼ 60
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 51
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76 ▼ 69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 72
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57 ▼ 45
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 50
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 74
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 64 ▼ 51
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 71
New York	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 46
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Paris	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 43
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 51
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 46
Salem	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 47
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63 ▼ 41
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70 ▼ 49
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 55 ▼ 46

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
3:58 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
9:41 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
2:35 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
9:42 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front stretches from 25N140E southwestward to 21N0130E. Cloudiness and showers are occurring along and up to 75 miles northwest of the front. Another cold front extends southwestward from 25N180 to just west of Wake Island at 19N165E. Clouds and scattered light showers are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of this front. A weak monsoon trough extends eastward from 3N130E to a weak circulation south of Palau at 4N134E then continues northeastward to 11N143E to 17N154E to just west of Wake Island at 19N165. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found within 40 miles of a line from Koror to 7N130E and within 40 miles of a line from 11N140E to 12N144E to east of Guam at 14N146E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Kwajalein southwest toward Kosrae in the area bounded by 11N164E to 7N170E to 3N167E to 9N162E back to 11N164E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:31 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:32 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	1:40 PM	1:45 AM
Thursday	2:39 PM	2:32 AM
Friday	3:37 PM	3:17 AM
Saturday	4:38 PM	4:03 AM
Sunday	5:39 PM	4:49 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09605 6:20pm 7:10pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:10am 8:45am Daily DL285 6:40am 9:15am 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:05pm Daily DL286 7:45pm 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 DL288 8:00pm 12:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50am 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:10pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:20pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) CA988 3:15am 6:55am 1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN CA987 6:40pm 1:55am+1 4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL285/173 6:40am 10:15pm 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT C09313/933 7:55am 9:25pm 3 via GUM C09313/893 7:55am 11:00pm 3 via GUM-Palau C09603/933 3:05pm 9:25pm 5 via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 11:00pm 5 via GUM-Palau OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN OZ604/715 3:20pm 11:30pm 7 C09605/933 6:20pm 9:40pm 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ716/603 12:30am 2:20pm 4, 6 via ICN DL172/286 8:05am 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C0890/9606 10:55am 8:50pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:25am+1 6 via GUM PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM-Palau C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 4 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:35pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/603 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

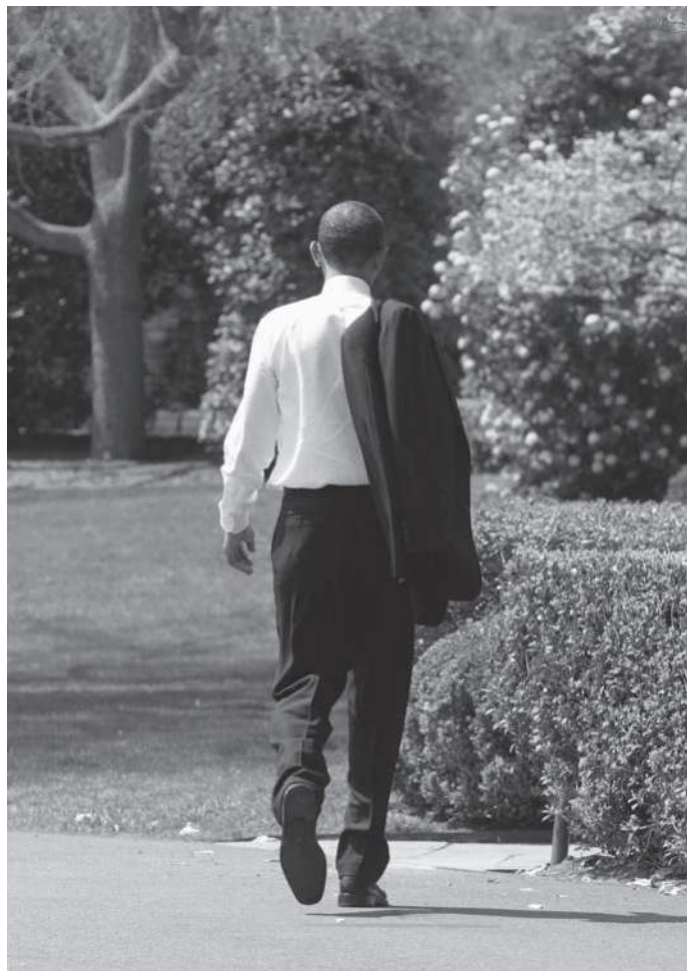
Obama's debt cutting plan: Everything on the table

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama, plunging into the rancorous struggle over America's mountainous debt, will draw sharp differences with Republicans Wednesday over how to conquer trillions of dollars in spending while somehow working out a compromise to raise some taxes and trim a cherished program like Medicare.

Obama's speech will set a new long-term deficit-reduction goal and establish a dramatically different vision from a major Republican proposal that aims to cut more than \$5 trillion over the next decade, officials said Monday.

Details of Obama's plan are being closely held so far, but the deficit-cutting target probably will fall between the \$1.1 trillion he proposed in his 2012 budget proposal and the \$4 trillion that a fiscal commission he appointed recommended in December.

The speech is intended as a declaration of Obama's commitment to seriously tame the deficit while outlining his long-term budget principles—key components of his campaign for re-election in 2012. After gingerly avoiding any discussion until now of cuts in the



AP
President Obama walks back toward the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Monday, April 11, 2011, after he met students from Altona Middle School in Longmont, Colo., on the South Portico.

government's massive benefit programs for the elderly and poor, Obama will acknowledge a need to reduce spending on Medicare and Medicaid while at the same time tackling defense spending and calling for increased taxes on the wealthy, White House officials said.

If that sounds like a reprise of last week's budget fight that barely avoided a government shutdown, it isn't. The stakes are far higher, the political risks greater and the goals more ambitious. At issue are long-term budget deficits and a \$14.3 trillion national debt that many say could threaten the nation's economy.

The cuts accomplished last week were for \$38.5 billion over the next six months; the cuts envisioned now are for trillions of dollars over the next 10 years.

Obama's speech, to be delivered at George Washington University, comes as Congress readies for a fierce fight over raising the nation's debt limit. Republicans have vowed to use that vote as leverage to extract greater budget discipline from the Democrats and the president.

Setting the terms of the debate and the likely brinkman-

ship to follow, White House spokesman Jay Carney said on Monday: "What I'm saying is that we support a clean piece of legislation to raise the debt ceiling. ... We cannot play chicken with the economy in this way."

The president's speech also comes amid liberal apprehension over recent Obama spending concessions and a desire among some Democrats to make proposed GOP cuts in Medicare a 2012 election issue.

House Republicans, led by the chairman of the House Budget Committee, Paul Ryan, last week unveiled a plan that would cut \$5.8 trillion over 10 years with a major restructuring of the nation's signature health care programs for the elderly and the poor. Meanwhile, six senators have formed a bipartisan group to work on their own plan to rein in long-term deficits by making changes to Medicare and Medicaid and examining a fundamental overhaul of the tax system that would yield additional revenue.

Obama is expected to concede a need for overhauling Medicare and Medicaid and to

even make adjustments to Social Security, always considered politically risky territory. But he will distinguish his plan from the Republican budget, which would shrink Medicare by shifting the program to private insurers and send block grants to states to pay for Medicaid, the health care program for the poor.

Unlike the Republican plan, Obama is also expected to call for cuts in defense spending and for tax hikes, repeating his 2012 budget plan to increase Bush era tax rates for families making more than \$250,000. Obama shelved that plan in a budget compromise with Republicans.

The Republican plan, on the other hand, would make the Bush-era tax cuts permanent.

The debate over Medicare and Medicaid may not be resolved before the 2012 election, potentially making it the defining element of the presidential campaign. The weight of the debt has emerged as a powerful issue with independent voters, but both parties in the past have also used the fear of reduced benefits to motivate older voters.

Airports preparing for biggest version yet of 747

NEW YORK (AP)—The biggest version yet of Boeing's iconic 747 could soon be flying into airports that have never seen aircraft that large, raising hackles among some airport neighbors.

Medium-size airports in Toledo, Ohio; Rockford, Ill., and Huntsville, Ala. are among those asking the Federal Aviation Administration for approval to receive the massive 747-8 freighter. Boeing expects to deliver the first planes to customers later this year.

The airports are eager to grab a share of the air cargo mar-

ket, which is growing faster than passenger traffic as the economy recovers. But some residents feel threatened by the big cargo planes currently flying over their homes and doubt Boeing's claims that the new 747 won't be as noisy.

"When the planes come over, you just want to duck," said Mary Rose Evans, president of the Airport Neighbors Alliance in suburban Louisville. Evans said her house is just 500 feet below the flight path of incoming cargo planes.

The 747-8 is the biggest air-

plane Boeing has built, with a wingspan 11 feet wider and a body 18 feet longer than the current 747-400 model. Despite its size, Boeing says the 747-8 will be 30 percent quieter.

The 747-8 is now in testing. It's in the same new size category as the superjumbo Airbus 380. But while the A380 comes exclusively in a passenger version and flies only out of big international hubs like New York, the 747-8 has attracted the attention of cargo companies that intend to fly into lesser-known airfields.

For airports, cargo is big business. Air freight rose 10 percent between 2009 and 2010, from 20.7 million tons to 22.9 million. Growth in cargo far outstripped passenger service, which rose only 2 percent during the same period, from 767 million travelers to 782 million.

Getting approval for the 747-8 could woo more of that traffic, said Paul Toth, chief executive officer of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, which operates the Toledo Express Airport.

Businesses will be limited in jacking up retail prices because consumers are still spending cautiously, she said. And workers don't have the power to demand big pay increases because the jobs market is healing only slowly, she added. Those forces should prevent inflation from taking off.

Yellen said she didn't think that even "additional large and persistent shocks to commodity prices" would force the Fed to reverse course and start tightening credit as long as underlying inflation stayed low.

Yellen sees no rush to start tightening credit

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Reserve's second-highest ranking official on Monday said the economy is not strong enough for the Fed to begin tightening credit, countering a vocal minority of members who argue the central bank's stimulus programs are contributing to higher inflation.

Janet Yellen, the Fed's vice chairwoman, said the Fed's \$600 billion Treasury bond-purchase program and record-low interest rates are necessary

to help lower unemployment, which was 8.8 percent last month. She is part of a majority of members, including Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, who feel those programs are essential, even with oil and food prices surging.

A few members have raised concerns that the Fed's programs could spur higher inflation.

Richard Fisher, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Charles Plosser, presi-

dent of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and Narayana Kocherlakota, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, have suggested in recent weeks that it may be time to exit the programs. The Fed meets next on April 26-27.

In remarks to economists in New York, Yellen argued that the surge in food and energy prices will have only a temporary and modest impact on consumer inflation.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Ford says Asian operations may face part shortages

DETROIT (AP)—Ford Motor Co. says that its Asia-Pacific operations may have to slow or stop production later this month because of parts shortages from Japan. Ford has had to temporarily halt operations in the U.S. and Europe because of shortages, but this was the first word of possible production cuts in Asia. Ford has 13 plants in its Asia-Pacific region, including eight assembly plants in Australia, Thailand, Taiwan, Vietnam, India, the Philippines and China. Ford doesn't have any production facilities in Japan but, like other automakers, does source parts from suppliers that were hurt by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Bank of Korea keeps rate on hold amid inflation

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's central bank froze its key interest rate Tuesday despite rising inflation as it monitors potential threats to the global economy—including Japan's massive earthquake. The Bank of Korea kept its bench-

mark base rate at 3 percent at a monthly policy meeting, in line with expectations, after having raised it in two of the previous three months to fight gains in consumer prices. The bank, however, warned that inflation remains a threat and used hawkish wording in its statement accompanying the decision to suggest further rate hikes in coming months.

Google invests \$168M in solar energy project

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Google Inc. is investing \$168 million in an alternative power project that aims to produce enough solar energy to light 140,000 homes. The commitment announced Monday is part of the financing that BrightSource Energy needs to build solar power plant in California's Mojave Desert. BrightSource also has lined up \$1.6 billion in loans guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Energy and a \$300 million investment from NRG Energy Inc. The project, known as the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System, is supposed to generate about 392 gross megawatts when it is completed in 2013.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,381.10	1,324.46	2,771.51
1.06	-3.71	-8.91
0.01%	-0.28%	-0.32%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms	Hong Kong Dollar	Philippine Peso
Australian Dollar	7.7714	42.955
British Pound	44.0769	Singapore Dollar 1.2571
Canadian Dollar	8,652.5	South Korean Won 1,083.025
Chinese Yuan	84.764	Swiss Franc 0.9065
Euro	3.0215	Taiwan Dollar 28.9415
	1.2775	Thailand Baht 29.9800

Nation

Court won't lift stay on Arizona immigration law

PHOENIX (AP)—A federal appeals court on Monday refused to lift a stay blocking major parts of Arizona's immigration law from taking effect and said the federal government is likely to be able to prove the controversial law is unconstitutional.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals turned down an appeal filed by Gov. Jan Brewer. She had asked the appeals court to lift an injunction imposed by a federal judge in Phoenix the day before the law was to take effect on July 29, 2010.

The U.S. Justice Department sued to block the law, saying it violates the U.S. Constitution because enforcing immigration law is a federal issue.

U.S. District Court Judge Susan Bolton issued an injunction preventing four major parts of the law from going into effect pending a trial. Monday's ruling by the three-judge appeals court panel upheld that injunction.

The panel's opinion said the government is likely to succeed in its arguments that Congress has given the federal government sole authority to enforce

immigration laws, and that Arizona's law violates the Supremacy Clause of the Constitution. One judge dissented.

Brewer's lawyers said the federal government hasn't effectively enforced immigration law and that the state law will assist federal authorities.

"I remain steadfast in my belief that Arizona and other states have a sovereign right and obligation to protect their citizens and enforce immigration law in accordance with federal statute," Brewer said in a statement.

The governor's office said Brewer, Arizona Attorney General Tom Horne and their legal team—in conjunction with counsel for the Arizona Legislature—will be considering their legal options, including appealing to a larger 9th Circuit panel or seeking an immediate petition for the U.S. Supreme Court, to lift the injunction.

The bill's author, state Sen. Russell Pearce, issued a statement saying the appeals court ruling was "utterly predictable."

"SB 1070 is constitutionally sound, and that will be proven



In this July 22, 2010 photo, protesters block the street to protest the SB1070 Arizona immigration law in front of U.S. District Court in Phoenix.

when the U.S. Supreme Court takes up this case and makes the proper ruling," he said. "This battle is a battle of epic proportions. It is about a state's right to enforce the laws of this land and protect its citizens from those

who break our laws."

"We're obviously pleased with the ruling, but we understand that there could be a long way to go with this litigation," said Robby Sherwood, a spokesman for the U.S. Attor-

ney for Arizona.

Parts of the law blocked from taking effect while the case works its way through the courts include a provision requiring police to question people's immigration status while

enforcing other laws if there is a reasonable suspicion they're in the country illegally.

Other provisions that are on hold include: requiring all immigrants to obtain or carry immigration registration papers; making it a state criminal offense for an illegal immigrant to seek work or hold a job; and allowing police to arrest suspected illegal immigrants without a warrant.

In a separate opinion concurring with the panel's ruling, Appeals Court Judge John T. Noonan noted the intent of the state statute is clear and goes beyond what federal law allows.

"If we read Section 1 of the statute, the statute states the purpose of providing a solution to illegal immigration in the United States. So read, the statute is a singular entry into the foreign policy of the United States by a single state," he wrote.

Judge Carlos Bea would uphold two of the provisions—those allowing police to question people about their immigration status and to make warrantless arrests—and wrote a pointed dissent.

Commemoration, not celebration for Civil War 150th

FORT SUMTER NATIONAL MONUMENT, South Carolina (AP)—Somber period music, flickering candlelight and booming cannons will usher in America's observance of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

The opening salvo of that war that began in Charleston Harbor will be recreated Tuesday. The war began before dawn on April 12, 1861, with the start of a Confederate bombardment of Union-held Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor. The conflict ended four years later with the surrender of Confederate forces in Virginia on April 9, 1865.

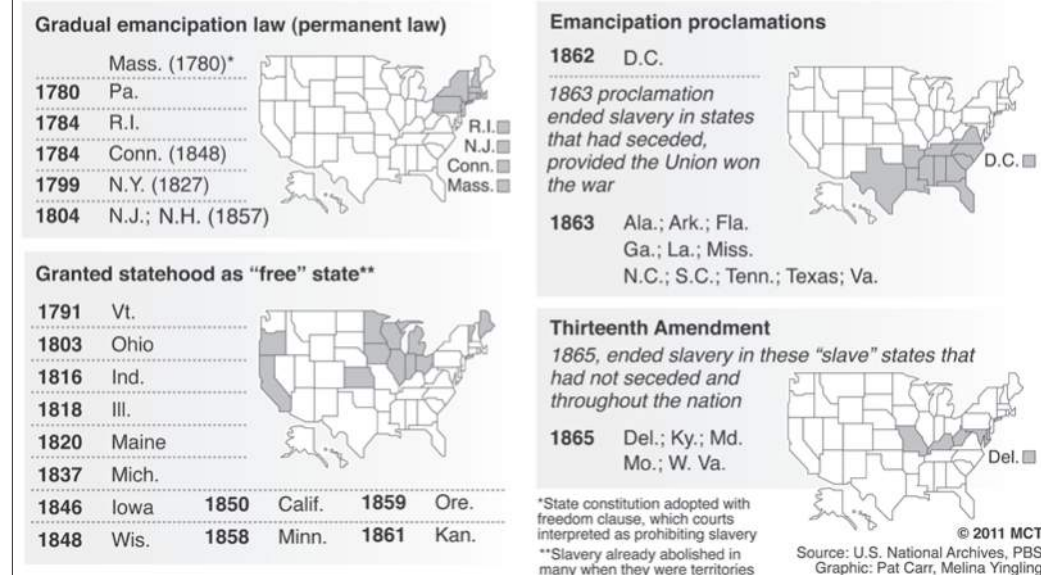
"We're very clear we don't see this as a celebration but rather as a somber time," Tim Stone, the superintendent of the Fort Sumter National Monument said Monday. "We know that over the course of the four years of the Civil War 600,000 lives were lost. It's a very tragic event."

Tuesday's commemoration of the first shots was set to begin with a brief, pre-dawn concert of period music on Charleston's Battery entitled "When Jesus Wept." Then a star shell will explode over the fort, signaling the start for several hundred re-enactors—manning cannon around the harbor—to re-enact the bombardment. Union troops in the fort surrendered after more than 30 punishing hours of Confederate fire.

Re-enactors portraying Confederate units are camping at Fort Moultrie on Sullivans Is-

Mapping emancipation

April 16 is a legal holiday in Washington, D.C., marking President Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Compensated Emancipation Act, freeing slaves in district. How slavery ended in the states:



land, while Union re-enactors are in Sumter this week. They plan to recreate the Union surrender to Confederate troops on Thursday.

Historian Rick Hatcher said the bombardment didn't cause any deaths, but two Union soldiers died of wounds suffered when a salute was fired during the surrender ceremony.

Stone said the National Park Service sees the anniversary as an opportunity for new generations to learn the story of the bloody conflict.

"We hope that in the National Park Service that manages many of the great Civil War sites—Gettysburg, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Antietam and, of course Fort Sumter—we

provide the visiting public the opportunity to experience the history of those events. We try to focus on the history and let the visitors take away the message they want."

The events this week include living history demonstrations focusing on the role of blacks and women during the war. There will be sessions on period music, medicine and cooking of the era.

What is being planned is different than the festival atmosphere that seemed to surround the Civil War centennial 50 years ago, said park service ranger Michael Allen.

"When we began this journey we made clear it was not a celebration; it was a remem-

brance, a commemoration," he said, adding the Park Service rejected suggestions such as organizing a fireworks display over the harbor.

"The Park Service realized this is a sensitive journey," Allen noted. "The eyes of the ... state, the eyes of the nation and the eyes of the world are on what we are doing here."

More than 200 miles (320 kilometers) away in his native Greenville, civil rights leader the Rev. Jesse Jackson spoke Monday to high school students about the lingering effects of the Civil War and slavery. He said that despite slaves being freed as a result of the war, it was another century before blacks attained equal rights.

ACROSS THE NATION

Man believed to be explosion suspect arrested

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—A man believed to be a suspect in the explosion outside a Santa Monica synagogue has been arrested near Cleveland, authorities said Monday. A man thought to be Ron Hirsch, 60, was taken into custody in suburban Cleveland Heights Monday evening after a concerned citizen who came into contact with him called police, FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller in Los Angeles said. She said the FBI was working with local authorities to confirm the man's identity and had no immediate details of the arrest.

2 more sets of bones NY beach; brings total to 10

WANTAGH, N.Y. (AP)—Suspected human remains were found in two locations along a remote New York beach highway Monday, bringing to 10 the number of potential victims of a possible serial killer. The discovery came as police expanded a search from Long Island's Suffolk County westward into the Jones Beach area of Nassau County, just over the border from New York City. The expanded search was prompted by Suffolk's discovery in the past two weeks of four sets of unidentified human remains; the bodies of four women who worked as Craigslist escorts were found in the same area in December, leading authorities

to suspect that they may be contending with a serial killer.

Crews battle wildfires amid severe Texas drought

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP)—Firefighters battled Monday to contain several large blazes that have burned hundreds of square miles of rural Texas and destroyed dozens of homes since last week, getting reinforcements from out of state as they struggled against some of the worst wildfire conditions in state history. One firefighter was in critical condition at a Lubbock hospital with severe burns suffered while fighting a Panhandle wildfire, officials said.

No strings attached: Puppets robbed in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP)—Thieves broke into a performing arts organization's van and stole three puppets worth \$10,000, cutting the company's cast in half in the middle of a popular tour and prompting workers to frantically dig through trash bins in search of the missing characters. Maui Academy of Performing Arts officials said the cloth-covered foam puppets were created in 2009 by puppeteer Frank Kane, who once worked for Jim Henson and the Muppets, and stolen Saturday night in Kahului. The group made a plea for the public's help in locating the missing puppets as workers searched roads and trash bins for any sign of them.

Asia

Japan ups nuke crisis severity to match Chernobyl

TOKYO (AP)—Japan raised the severity level of the crisis at its crippled nuclear plant Tuesday to rank it on par with the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, citing cumulative radiation leaks contaminating the air, tap water, vegetables and seawater.

Japanese nuclear regulators said the rating was being raised from 5 to 7—the highest level on an international scale overseen by the International Atomic Energy Agency—after new assessments of radiation leaks from the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant since it was disabled by the March 11 tsunami.

The new ranking signifies a “major accident” with “wider consequences” than the previous level, including widespread health effects, according to the Vienna-based IAEA.

However, Japanese officials have played down any health effects of radioactive releases so far from the Fukushima plant. They said the leaks amount to only a tenth of the radiation emitted in the Chernobyl disaster, while acknowledging they eventually could exceed Chernobyl’s emissions if the crisis continues.

“This reconfirms that this is an extremely major disaster. We are very sorry to the public, people living near the nuclear complex and the international community for causing such a serious accident,” said Chief Cabinet Secretary



AP
Tokyo Electric Power Co. President Masataka Shimizu listens to questions from media at the Fukushima prefectural office in Fukushima, Japan, Monday, April 11, 2011, a month to the day after an earthquake and tsunami struck northeastern Japan.

Yuki Edano.

But Edano told reporters that there was so far no “direct health damage” from the crisis. “The accident itself is really serious, but we have set our priority so as not to cause health damage.”

The revision came a day after

the government added five communities to a list of places people should leave to avoid long-term radiation exposure. A 12-mile (20-kilometer) radius already had been cleared around the plant.

Officials from Japan’s Nucle-

ar and Industrial Safety Agency said that the cumulative amount of radioactive particles released into the atmosphere since the incident had reached levels that apply to a Level 7 incident. Other factors included damage to the plant’s buildings and ac-

cumulated radiation levels for its workers.

“We have upgraded the severity level to 7 as the impact of radiation leaks has been widespread from the air, vegetables, tap water to the ocean,” NISA official Minoru Oogoda said.

The revision was based on cross-checking and assessments of data on leaks of radioactive iodine-131 and cesium-137, NISA spokesman Hidehiko Nishiyama said.

“We have refrained from making announcements until we have reliable data,” Nishiyama said. “The announcement is being made now because it became possible to look at and check the accumulated data assessed in two different ways,” he said, referring to measurements from NISA and Japan’s Nuclear Security Council.

Nishiyama noted that unlike in Chernobyl there have been no explosions of reactor cores at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant, although there were hydrogen explosions.

Taiwan air drill highlights US arms sale dilemma

TAINAN COUNTY, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan’s equipment-challenged air force demonstrated its improvisational skills Tuesday, landing six war planes on a normally busy highway to simulate a response to a Chinese attack on its air fields.

The early morning exercise came amid persistent warnings that the Taiwanese air force—long considered the key to the island’s defenses against China—is losing its qualitative edge because of U.S. reluctance to supply it with modern warplanes and avionics.

Earlier this month, Sen. Richard Lugar told Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that unless Washington supplied Taipei with relatively advanced

F-16 jet fighters and upgraded Taiwan’s existing F-16 fleet, the island could be left “with no credible air-to-air deterrent.”

The comments by Lugar, a Republican from Indiana, followed last year’s publication of a Pentagon report saying that Taiwan’s aging fleet of combat aircraft was falling far behind the potential of the modern jet fighters China has at its disposal.

Taiwanese requests for the F-16 hardware have been pending since the administration of President George W. Bush. The Obama administration has refused to make a decision, caught between its strong desire not to anger China—with which it maintains a complex and wide-ranging relationship—and

its equally strong commitment to provide Taiwan the means to defend itself from possible Chinese attack.

Taiwan and China split amid civil war in 1949. The mainland still claims the island as part of its territory and sees foreign military sales there as interference in its internal affairs. While relations between Taipei and Beijing have improved substantially since Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou came to power three years ago, China’s Communist leaders still threaten to invade across the 100-mile-wide (160-kilometer-wide) Taiwan Strait if democratic Taiwan moves to make its de facto independence permanent.

In Tuesday’s air force exer-

cise, streaking pairs of F-16s, French-built Mirages and Taiwanese-made Indigenous Defense Fighters swooped down to land on the Madou Highway in the southern county of Tainan, as a single OH-58D helicopter hovered overhead to provide security.

Under the conditions of the exercise, the highway landing was made necessary because a simulated Chinese attack had already taken out nearby Taiwanese air fields.

Within minutes, AH1W and CH-47 helicopters joined the waiting fighters, and resupplied them with Harpoon and other missiles so they could continue their missions against the attacking Chinese.

PH TV show pulled over crying boy’s dance

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines’ most popular TV game show was pulled off the air Monday amid a public uproar over the host letting a crying 6-year-old boy mimic a striptease dancer.

“Willing Willie” host Willie Revillame said he was taking two weeks of leave after which he will announce if he’ll return to television.

Angry viewers and commentators have launched a campaign on social-networking sites to remove Revillame from the show, which offers cash prizes for singing, dancing, storytelling and playing games. They say Revillame showed poor taste and mocked his mostly impoverished viewers by allowing the crying boy to gyrate as a striptease dancer.

The young contestant, accompanied on the show by an aunt, earned 10,000 pesos (\$230) for his dance. Revillame and others applauded as the boy performed. He appeared to have been crying because Revillame called a huge basketball player to the stage

to watch as the boy danced.

The outcry led major sponsors to pull out, including Procter & Gamble Co., Del Monte Pacific Ltd., Unilever and Philippine fast-food giant Jollibee Foods Corp. The March 12 episode also has prompted soul-searching discussions about the quality of TV entertainment in the Philippines.

TV5 network said it wants to improve the program and work with television and advertising industry stakeholders on guidelines for the participation of children in all game and reality TV shows.

Philippine-born theater actress Monique Wilson, in a widely circulated email carried by local media, argued that such TV shows “dumb down audiences (and) disempower them by creating a mendicant society with game shows that promise ‘quick money.’”

Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman last month condemned “the emotional abuse and humiliation” the boy suffered and said the program violated a law against child abuse.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Indonesian lawmaker caught watching porn resigns

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—An Indonesian lawmaker who helped pass a tough anti-pornography law resigned Monday after he got caught watching sexually explicit videos on his computer during a parliamentary debate. The scandal has transfixed this predominantly

Muslim nation since a local photojournalist filmed Arifinto, a member of the staunchly Islamic Prosperous Justice Party, gazing at the downloaded porn sites Friday. The blurred images have been published on the front pages of newspapers almost daily, and reaction has set alight social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. Some commentators said Arifinto should be prosecuted

under the anti-pornography law that took effect in 2008 despite opposition from the public and some members of the government.

Tajik Muslims to ban text message divorces

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (AP)—Tajik religious authorities say divorce by text message will soon be banned, as they seek to stamp out the practice in the

mainly Muslim Central Asian nation. State religious affairs committee head Abdurakhim Kholikov said Monday that sending SMSs with the “triple talaq,” a Muslim ritual whereby a husband can end a marriage by reciting the term for divorce three times, breaches Islamic law. Divorce by text message has become common in Tajikistan, particularly among migrant

laborers living abroad.

Govt minister stabbed in Nepal, prompting manhunt

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Nepalese authorities have launched a massive manhunt for assailants who stabbed a government minister in Katmandu. Energy Minister Gokarna Bista was attacked outside his house

Monday night, just hours after he was appointed to his new position. He suffered wounds to his head and neck and was in critical but stable condition at a hospital. Police spokesman Kedar Dhakal said Tuesday they have detained more than 50 people for questioning and have stepped up security around the capital. The motive for the attack was not immediately known.

World

Ivory Coast standoff ends with strongman's capture

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)—The elected president of this West African nation heralded “the dawn of a new era of hope” when a bloody, four-month standoff ended with the capture of his rival, the longtime strongman who lost the vote but refused to give up power.

Video of former President Laurent Gbagbo being led into a room in a white undershirt was broadcast Monday on television as proof of his detention. He would not sign a statement formally ceding power after losing a Nov. 28 election to economist Alassane Ouattara.

More than 1 million civilians fled their homes and untold numbers were killed in the power struggle between the two rivals that threatened to re-ignite a civil war in the world's largest cocoa producer. Gbagbo's security forces have been accused of using cannons, 60 mm mortars and 50-caliber machine guns to mow down opponents during the standoff.

“After more than four months of post-electoral crisis, marked by so many human lives lost, we are finally at the dawn of a new era of hope,” Ouattara said in an address to the nation on radio and television.



Former Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo, center, and his wife Simone, are seen in the custody of republican forces loyal to election winner Alassane Ouattara at the Golf Hotel in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, Monday, April 11, 2011.

Ouattara cut short speculation that Gbagbo would be delivered to the International Criminal Court at The Hague, calling for an Ivorian investigation into the former president, his wife and their entourage.

“Every measure has been taken to assure the physical integrity of Mr. Laurent Gbagbo,

his wife and all those arrested,” he said. “They will receive dignified treatment and their rights will be respected.”

Ouattara also said he intended to establish a truth and reconciliation commission and called on all fighters to put down their arms.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon spoke to

Ouattara on Monday and said he expected that with Gbagbo in custody, “any further bloodshed will be avoided,” UN spokesman Martin Nesirky said in a statement late Monday.

Nesirky said that, at Gbagbo's request, the UN peacekeeping mission will provide security and protection while Mbagbo is

in custody. He said Ban stressed to Ouattara “the need to ensure that there is no retaliation against Mr. Mbagbo's supporters.”

President Barack Obama welcomed Gbagbo's capture, calling it a victory for the democratic will of the Ivorian people, who “have the chance to begin to reclaim their country, solidify their democracy and rebuild a vibrant economy.”

Gbagbo, who ruled the former French colony for a decade, was pulled from his burning residence by Ouattara's troops following fighting earlier in the day. The pro-Ouattara forces had received support by French tanks and helicopters.

Residents of the commercial capital of Abidjan refrained from celebrating in public, still fearful of the many armed fighters prowling the streets and refusing to believe their leader had been arrested. Sporadic gunfire echoed across the city Monday night.

Gbagbo, 65, could be forced to answer for his soldiers' crimes, even though an international trial threatens to stoke the divisions that Ouattara will now have to heal as president.

Gbagbo's dramatic arrest came after days of heavy fighting in

which French and U.N. helicopters fired rockets at arms depots around the city and targets within the presidential compound. Ouattara's final push began just after French airstrikes ceased at around 3 a.m. Monday. A simultaneous French armored advance secured large parts of the city, and pro-Ouattara troops entered the presidential compound just after midday.

“We attacked and forced in a part of the bunker,” Issard Soumahro, a pro-Ouattara fighter at the scene, told The Associated Press.

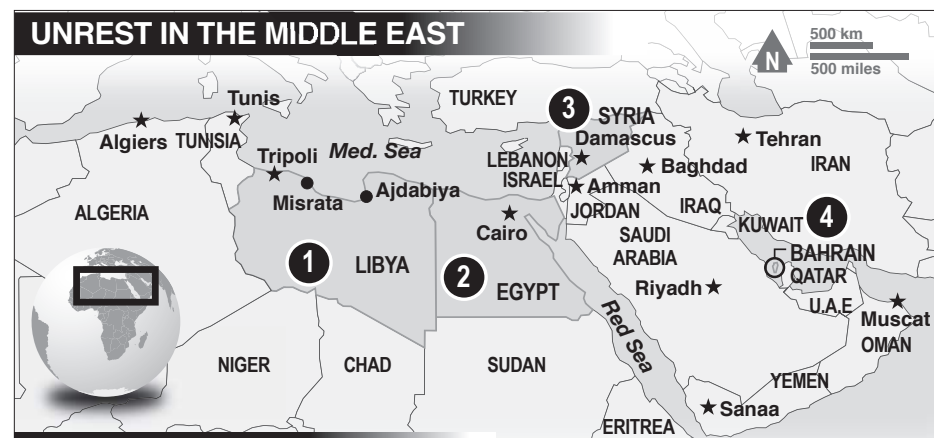
He added that Gbagbo was tired and had been slapped by a soldier, but was not otherwise hurt.

Another pro-Ouattara fighter, Yaya Toure, said the assault was “hard in the beginning but we got up our courage to enter” the residence.

Gbagbo “tried to escape by the lagoon,” Toure said, adding that the French forces in helicopters “cut off his escape route, so he came back to his residence.”

“Then in the residence, we went in and took him,” he said. “It wasn't the whites (the French) who took him—it was us.”

Libyan rebels reject African cease-fire proposal



LATEST EVENTS April 11, 2011

1. Libya Rebel ruling council rejects African Union mediation efforts because there is no provision for Gadhafi stepping down; European leaders are suspicious of Gadhafi's promise of a cease fire; coalition airstrikes allow rebels to retake Ajdabiya, move toward oil port of Brega; Misrata shelled by

2. Egypt A military tribunal sentences blogger to three years in prison for insulting the army in a blog post about its alleged abuses; two generals justified the sentence by saying that criticism of the military is only allowed if it is done in a respectful way

3. Syria Security forces disperse protesters at Damascus University; European countries condemn the three-week crackdown on protests; at least 170 have died

4. Bahrain Three top editors at the kingdom's biggest opposition newspaper are to go to trial on charges of publishing allegedly fabricated reports about the recent unrest

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—Libyan rebels, backed forcefully by European leaders, rejected a cease-fire proposal by African mediators on Monday because it did not insist that Moammar Gadhafi relinquish power.

A day after an announcement that the Libyan leader had accepted the truce, a doctor in rebel-held Misrata said Gadhafi's forces battered that western city and its Mediterranean port with artillery fire that killed six people.

“He is the biggest lie in the history of Libya,” said Jilal Tajouri, 42, who joined more than 1,000 flag-waving protesters in the eastern rebel stronghold of Benghazi as the African Union delegation arrived.

“All the people in Libya agree on this: Gadhafi and all his sons must leave Libya so we can have democracy,” Tajouri said, echoing the opposition of other demonstrators to any dealmaking while Gadhafi re-

mains in power.

The rebels' leadership council agreed. “Col. Gadhafi and his sons must leave immediately if he wants to save himself. “If not, the people are coming for him,” said Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, a former justice minister who split with Gadhafi and heads the Benghazi-based Transitional National Council.

Abdul-Jalil said the African Union proposal “did not respond to the aspirations of the Libyan people” and involved only political reforms.

“The initiative that was presented today, its time has passed,” he said. “We will not negotiate on the blood of our martyrs. We will die with them or be victorious.”

In their talks with the African Union delegation, the rebels raised the issue of Gadhafi's reliance on foreign mercenaries from other African and Arab nations, particularly Algeria, said Abdul-Jalil, without elaborating.

The protesters in Benghazi said they had little faith in the visiting African Union mediators, most of them allies of Gadhafi. Three of the five African leaders who came preaching democracy for Libya seized power in coups.

South African President Jacob Zuma led the group, whose other key participants were the leaders of Mali, Mauritania, Republic of Congo and Uganda.

An Algerian member of the AU delegation had said there was discussion in the meeting with Gadhafi of the demands for his exit, but he refused to divulge details.

Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini strongly backed the rebel demand for Gadhafi's immediate departure and said he doubted that the Libyan leader would have abided by the cease-fire after breaking more than one previous pledge to halt violence.

Egypt blogger gets three years for criticizing army

CAIRO (AP)—An Egyptian military tribunal convicted a blogger of insulting the army and sentenced him to three years in prison, further raising activists' fears that the army is against greater freedom of expression and political reform.

The Justice Ministry, meanwhile, moved forward in its corruption investigation of former regime stalwarts, announcing the 15-day detention of Safwat el-Sherif, the secretary general of the ruling party and once one of the most powerful men in the country.

The military court on Sunday issued the sentence against 26-year-old Maikel Nabil Sanad, who carried reports of abuses by the military on his blog and accused it of still being loyal to ousted President Hosni Mubarak. The sentence was passed without the presence of his lawyers, according to a statement by seven Cairo-based rights groups.

It was the first trial of a blogger by Egypt's military rulers, who took charge of the country after former president Hosni Mubarak was ousted by anti-government protests Feb. 11 after an 18-day popular uprising.

Rights lawyers say the sentence has wide implications for freedom of expression in post-Mubarak Egypt, and could set

a precedent for anyone seeking to expose wrongdoing or abuses by the military.

A member of the military council, Maj. Gen. Mohammed al-Assar told an Egyptian private TV station, ONTV, Monday, the armed forces is open to criticism—but only up to a point.

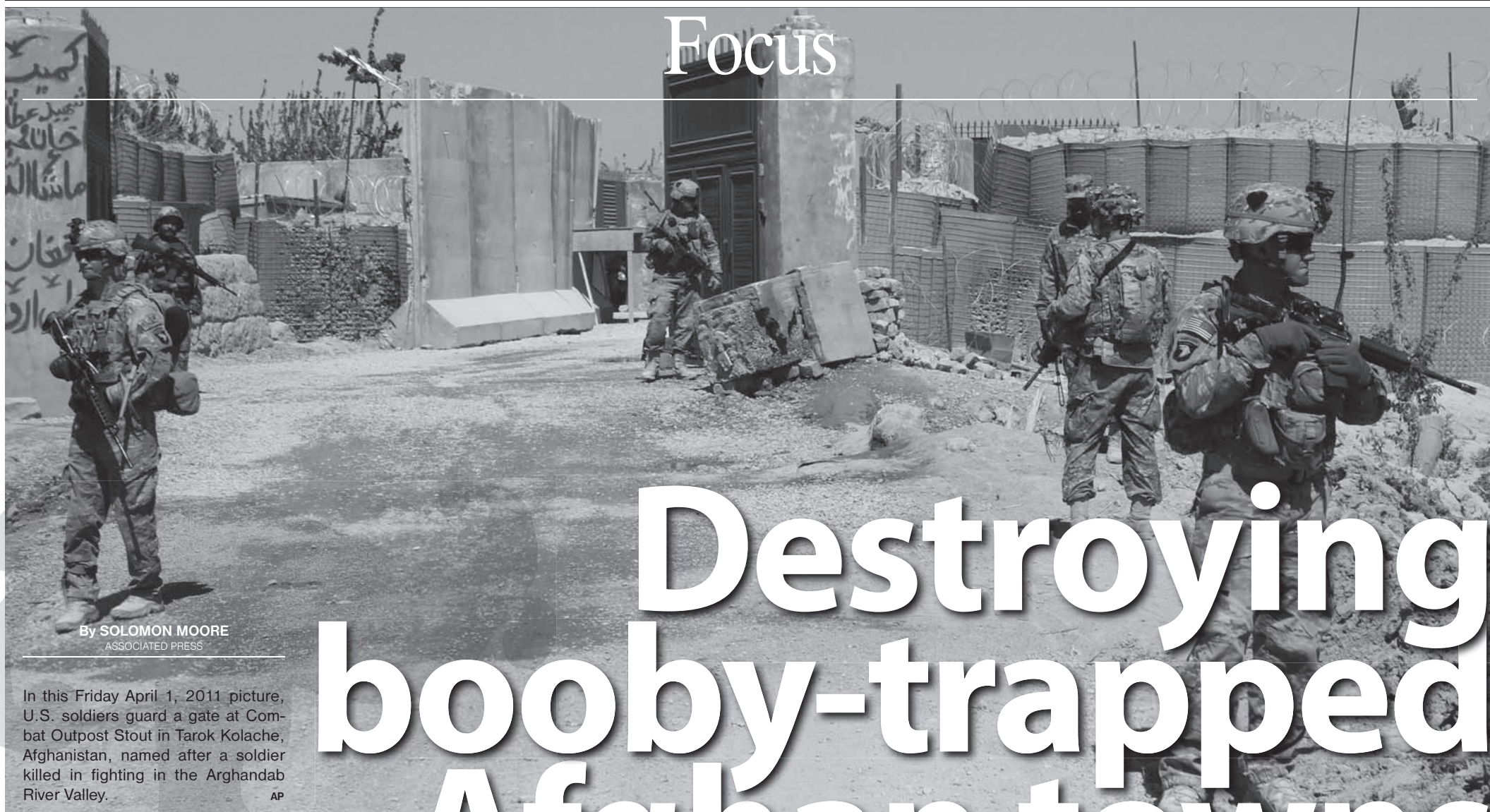
“There is a difference between criticism with good intentions from a citizen, a journalist or a broadcaster, who mean the public good. There is no problem with that,” he said. “The problem is in questioning the intentions (of the army).”

Paris-based Reporters Without Borders said it was “shocked” by the three-year jail sentence, asking the authorities to review it and free him “without delay.”

The case against Sanad, who was arrested two weeks ago at his home, was based on a blog post titled “The people and the army were never hand in hand,” questioning the military's continued allegiance to Mubarak; as well as Facebook postings reporting allegations of abuse.

“Maikel was posting on his blog news published by rights groups, and newspaper clippings” among other things, said Adel Ramadan, Sanad's lawyer. “The danger extends to all bloggers, rights activists and journalists.”

Focus



By SOLOMON MOORE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Friday April 1, 2011 picture, U.S. soldiers guard a gate at Combat Outpost Stout in Tarok Kolache, Afghanistan, named after a soldier killed in fighting in the Arghandab River Valley. AP

Destroying booby-trapped Afghan towns to save them

TAROK KOLACHE, Afghanistan (AP)—Two aerial photos tell the story of this tiny village in the southern province of Kandahar. One shows a deceptively bucolic collection of mud huts amid pomegranate orchards. The second shows a field of dirt and shorn tree stumps—the same hamlet after being pulverized by 25 tons of explosives.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. David Flynn, commander of Combined Joint Task Force 1-320th, called in airstrikes to level Tarok Kolache in October after spending 100 days fighting for control of the Arghandab River Valley, a fertile farming area and Taliban bastion.

Seven of his men were killed and dozens wounded in orchards and towns the Taliban laced with improvised bombs. In one small area, Flynn said, his men encountered about 200 bombs—or one every 40 yards.

“We were fighting in a veritable minefield,” Flynn said.

While the bombardment in October ended the battle for Tarok Kolache, the battle of perception had just begun.

The village was deserted at the time of the bombing, but criticism of the strikes was intense.

Afghan government officials said destroying the village was excessive. Human rights activists compared the strike with Vietnam-era carpet bombings and said it smacked of collective punishment. At best, it deviated from classic counterinsurgency doctrine, which emphasizes politics and development aid, rather than spectacular violence.

Flynn defended the strikes—at one point writing a lengthy post on the Foreign Policy blog, Best Defense—as a necessary evil due to the Taliban’s use of Afghan homes as fighting positions. Flynn said defusing the village house-by-house would have put troops at risk unnecessarily.

But NATO feared such justifications would be lost on people in Kandahar, where the Taliban has staunch support.

So Flynn decided on what he hoped would be a more persuasive response.

On a recent spring day, Flynn arranged a helicopter trip to Tarok Kolache for

reporters to see the opening of the village mosque and construction of 14 homes that will replace all the buildings destroyed in October, at a cost of \$500,000.

Construction of about 200 more homes is under way in the region, including three other Arghandab valley villages that were extensively damaged—Lower Baber, Kosher Safa, and Charcolba. The U.S. military is also planning to fund the planting of 300,000 pomegranate trees to restore damaged orchards in the region.

The U.S. routinely pays compensation to individuals whose homes are damaged in fighting.

However, the destruction in Arghandab valley—where villages of mud and straw were often caught between the Taliban’s improvised explosives and NATO’s 500-pound bombs—has given rise to a novel method of compensation.

The devastation was so extensive that Flynn’s unit decided to act as community development consultants and pay claims on a collective basis. In each village, they are consulting with landowners, tenants and government officials about the rebuilding.

NATO officials say the approach has enabled them to restore ruined villages that the Taliban would have used for propaganda. The method helped NATO demonstrate its good will to communities harmed by intense fighting last year. The process also linked remote villagers with Afghan political bodies they viewed with suspicion.

Flynn says U.S. troops have effectively disrupted insurgents’ movements in southern Afghanistan by setting up new Afghan combat units and a chain of combat outposts in Kandahar province.

But as the spring fighting season begins, it remains unclear how deep or lasting the military’s efforts will be, or whether the people of Arghandab val-

ley will shift their loyalties away from the Taliban.

About 70,000 people live in the valley, along the 250-mile-Arghandab river.

Tarok Kolache farmer Asadullah Alkozia, 25, was unimpressed by the American efforts.

He said the new trees would not replace his losses because it can take up to five years for them to bear fruit.

“We grew those trees for 35 years,” he said. “They (the Americans) will give us a little money and some new trees to replant, but where will we find the money we have lost as we wait for these trees to mature?”

Erica Gaston, a human rights advocate for the International Crisis Group, said it will be difficult to gain the villagers’ trust after the large-scale destruction in the valley.

“Even if they restore everything perfectly, there’s all the months that all those people were internally displaced and the trauma involved with that,” she said. “I don’t know that they can go back to zero at this point in terms of perception.”

Going back to zero wouldn’t help the U.S. military much in Kandahar province, where some of last year’s bloodiest battles took place.

In 2009, a U.S. military survey found that most Kandaharis trusted the Taliban more than they did government security forces. Storied mujahedeen battles against the British and the Soviet Union took place here. Mullah Mohammad Omar’s house sits nearby. Taliban fighters use the valley as a base and supply route.

At Tarok Kolache’s mosque opening, villagers, politicians and U.S. soldiers

sat on new cushions and leaned against the freshly painted walls as they listened to Kandahar Gov. Tooryalai Wesa give a speech—a somewhat courageous appearance in a province where the Taliban has dramatically increased assassinations of public officials.

“The opposition put explosives here, so this area was cleared, but people were unable to even go to their farms and vineyards,” said the governor. “Now you can see the mosque here and houses behind it and we will have other development projects.”

Wesa said that residents displaced by the fighting have returned to the valley. Sixty schools have reopened and more than 40,000 students have returned, he said.

The U.S. military will pay about \$6 million on damage claims in southern Kandahar where about 200 homes were destroyed last year, according to Canadian Army Col. Acton Kilby, director of stability for NATO’s command in southern Afghanistan.

Most of the residents of Tarok Kolache and other villages damaged in the valley last year were tenant farmers, renting land from landlords who did not live in the towns.

NATO officials decided they needed to compensate both parties, but worried if families that were paid directly they would take the money and leave their ruined hamlets behind.

“One of the reasons we’re going about reconstruction this way was to take away the Taliban’s ability to point to these destroyed villages,” said a State Department official, who asked not to be identified because he was not authorized to

speak to the media. “If we just gave the people compensation money, the people scatter and you still have a village that’s been destroyed here.”

Still some villagers remain conflicted about the bombing of Tarok Kolache.

Kilby, the Canadian officer, acknowledged that the rebuilding process is not an unalloyed success. Not all the villagers could be found after their homes were destroyed. Some wanted to take the money and move away. A small number rejected compensation, either because they were opposed to the U.S. or because they believed taking the money would make them an insurgent target. Others complained the compensation was too little.

Yet even some villagers who lost everything said they bore no grudge against the Americans.

As Flynn led a phalanx of reporters to the new mosque, Abdul Majid and his young son stooped over the blown apart pomegranate fields trying to nurse scarred roots back to health.

“We are not in our own homes because they were destroyed. My trees have also been destroyed,” Majid said. “But it was necessary because the Taliban came here to fight and this area was full of mines.”

But Kareemullah Jan Taraki, 38, a landowner in Tarok Kolache, said the bombing and rebuilding of the village was a pointless exercise.

“The Taliban came to our village and then the Americans destroyed our village,” he said. “Then Taliban go to another village, and the Americans strike that village, and then a third village. The Taliban is here in Afghanistan. Will the Americans destroy Afghanistan?”

Campus Life

Rota school takes part in R.I.S.E. for Japan

When the earthquake and tsunami struck northern Japan in the early afternoon hours of March 11, many families were separated. Parents were at work or at home; children were at school or at play. For many it would take days or longer to learn the fate of their loved ones; even today many continue their search.

These personal stories are the inspiration behind the R.I.S.E.

(Responsibility Increases Student Excellence) for Japan campaign, launched by the Pacific Regional Training Institute's student caucus. The students of Hawaii, Guam, Philippines, and Rota chose one of their prevention programs to sponsor the campaign to help their fellow students in Japan.

"This tragedy really comes down to the individual level,"

said Capt. Jon Takamura. "Yes this is a national tragedy, but families are torn apart. We are here to support them and to support our country at a time of great need."

PRTI and students of the caucus are working and dedicated to connecting Japanese students throughout the region and marshalling resources to help with relief efforts. Students of the

caucus have organized several events and fundraising efforts in the area to keep attention focused on the disaster and to help raise money for victims.

"This natural disaster has reminded us, that we cannot take anything for granted," said PRTI director Edward Maratita, Jr. "I feel it's very important to keep up a proactive mentality, while always putting ourselves in others'



READERS ACTIVITY

Susan Macario of Shirley's Coffee Shop reads a book to third grade students of San Antonio Elementary School to support the school's Community Readers Activity on April 12, 2011. The Readers Activity aims to involve the community to visit San Antonio Elementary School to inspire the children to read more. This activity encourages the students not to give up reading as they grow older and utilize this skill whenever and wherever their future may take them.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students of Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja pose for a souvenir photo after their R.I.S.E. for Japan campaign efforts. From left, Skye Lee Manglona, Chuck Barcinas, Fortunato Manglona Jr., and Kish Doromal.

shoes, in particular those who are suffering. I am confident that our united support will help encourage and provide strength for the people in Japan."

According to Kenji Sarmiento, a student of St. Patrick School in Hawaii, "all efforts by the student caucus are pouring in for the R.I.S.E. for Japan campaign."

"I think this is one way to embody the PRTI philosophy of 'ask what you can do,'" said Fortunato Manglona Jr., a stu-

dent at the Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja on Rota.

Capt. Takamura admits that even for a country as economically strong as Japan was, it will take years to recover from this tragedy.

The PRTI and students of the caucus will like to extend their appreciation to all those that helped the R.I.S.E. program and R.I.S.E. for Japan campaign. Your support in helping our fellow brothers and sisters in Japan is greatly appreciated. (Ford Ebesugawa)

GHIS students haul top awards in forensic competition

Golden Harvest International School's students bagged 23 medals at the PGFC Regional Competition, garnering nine Gold, seven Silver, seven Bronze and nine other top ribbon awards for both K-2 and 3-5 Division.

The event was held on April 9, 2011, at Kagman Elementary School.

According to the school's administration, this overwhelming result was a product of hard work, determination, and faith in God, which the coaches has also instilled in the mind and hearts of their students. All the sacrifices and tiresome rehearsals paid off.

A heartfelt thanks to all the teachers, staff and parents who were partners into making this competition successful and who patiently waited during this long day event.

K-2 DIVISION FINALS

- Faith Bocago, Dramatic Interp, Gold; Duo Interp, Gold
- Daphne Cruzat, Duo Interp, Gold; Dramatic Interp, Silver
- John San Nicolas, Choral Speaking, Gold
- Devin Ross Ayuyu, Choral Speaking, Gold; Humorous Interp, 4th place

- Vince Salvador, Choral Speaking, Gold

- Hannah Lacap, Choral Speaking, Bronze; Dramatic Interp, 4th place

- Jewel Combinido, Choral Speaking, Bronze

- Michelle Leon Guerrero, Choral Speaking, Bronze

- Kyla Raquel, Choral Speaking, Bronze

- Yvonne Abustan, Choral Speaking, Bronze

- Aaron Ignacio, Choral Speaking, 4th place

- Sebastian Bernardo, Choral Speaking, 4th place

- Robin Alvarez, Choral Speaking, 4th place

- Raven Francisco, Choral Speaking, 4th place

- Marlon Pineda Jr., Duo Interp, 4th place

- Arman Cabrera, Duo Interp, 4th place

3-5 DIVISION FINALS

- Joseph Yanto, Dramatic Interp, Gold

- Mark Ibanez, Duo Interp, Gold; Choral Speaking, Silver

- Fernand Ramos, Duo Interp, Gold; Choral Speaking, Silver

- Angelo Talens, Choral speaking, Silver; Duo Interp, Bronze

- Matthew Leon Guerrero,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Golden Harvest International School students pose for a souvenir picture after participating in the PGFC Regional Competition on April 9, 2011, at Kagman Elementary School.

- Choral Speaking, Silver; Duo Interp, Bronze

- Kennedy Vila, Duo Interp, Silver

- Davean Gonzales, Duo Interp, Silver

- Marione Corpus, Dramatic Interp, 5th place

K-2 DIVISION QUALIFYING ROUND

Choral Speaking-B

- 2nd place: Devin Ayuyu, John Isaac san Nicolas, Vince Salvador

- 3rd place: Aaron Ignacio, Robin Alvarez, Raven Francisco, Sebastian Bernardo

Choral Speaking-A

- 4th place: Jewel Combinido, Kyla Raquel, Yvonne

- Abustan, Michelle Leon Guerrero, Hannah Lacap

Duo Interp-A

- 1st place: Arman Cabrera, Marlon Pineda Jr.

Duo Interp-B

- 2nd place: Daphne Cruzat, Faith Bocago

Dramatic Interp-A

- 3rd place: Daphne Cruzat
- 5th place: Aaron Ignacio

Dramatic Interp-B

- 1st place: Faith Bocago
- 3rd place: Hannah Lacap

Humorous Interp-B

- 2nd place: Devin Ayuyu
- 3rd place: Sukey Wu
- 4th Place: Vince Salvador

3-5 DIVISION QUALIFYING ROUND

Duo Interp-A

- 2nd place: Angelo Talens, Matthew Leon Guerrero

Duo Interp-B

- 1st place: Mark Ibanez, Fernand Ramos
- 2nd place: Davean Gonzales, Kennedy Vila

Dramatic Interp-A

- 1st place: Marione Corpus
- 3rd place: Mark Ira Galang

Dramatic Interp-B

- 2nd place: Joseph Yanto

Humorous Interp

- 3rd place: Joseph Yanto

Coaches: Imelda Bautista, Riza Pasaylo, Elvie Armea, Aida Lim, Lorelisa Espiritu

Life & Style

Civil War 150th a lifetime event for re-enactors

By **BRUCE SMITH**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FORT SUMTER NATIONAL MONUMENT, South Carolina (AP)—For thousands of Civil War re-enactors, the next four years are a chance to capitalize on the public's curiosity about a century-old hobby that demands such attention to detail that the fights seem almost real.

The die-hards converging soon at the site where the War Between the States began 150 years ago with a Confederate artillery barrage against the federal Fort Sumter outpost, situated on a manmade island a few hundred yards (meters) off the Charleston, South Carolina, shoreline, cannot wait to help others understand why they spend weekends tramping through the rain, sleeping in tents in snow-covered fields, cooking on open campfires and enduring mock battles in wool coats under the hot Southern sun.

They are expecting a surge of interest in a pastime that has roots at the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg in 1913, when Confederate veterans retraced Confederate Gen. George Pickett's calvary charge, a turning point in the war. Re-enacting took hold for good five decades ago during the Civil War's centennial.

"The 150th cycle is going to be great. It's going to bring us some new re-enactors and it's going to bring a lot of attention and publicity," said Reece Sexton, publisher of the Civil War Courier newspaper and two companion magazines considered bibles by enthusiasts.



Jacob Borror shares a grit cake with his father Matt Borror as they serve in the United States Army guarding Fort Sumter, Monday, April 11, 2011 in Charleston, S.C.

"The hobby is not going to die. It does need some new blood."

There is no nationwide association for re-enactors, but Sexton estimates as many as 50,000 take part at least occasionally. An estimated 1,000 re-enactors will be in Charleston for the festivities surrounding the April 12, 1861, attack on Fort Sumter, the first shots of the war. Organizers will explode a starburst shell over the fort, signaling re-enactors manning some 30 cannons ringing the harbor to begin a 30-minute barrage.

Sexton expects up to 12,000 re-enactors in Virginia for the 150th anniversary in July of Bull Run, the first major battle of the war.

The capstone will come in 2013, when the Gettysburg an-

niversary could draw as many as 25,000 re-enactors and four times that many spectators to the fields of Pennsylvania.

There are re-enactments yearly of many major Civil War battles and of numerous smaller skirmishes at locations near the battlefields. None is permitted on the actual battlefields.

The next four years will be special.

"Among a lot of re-enactors I'm talking to, this is it. This is the anniversary they have been waiting for," said George Wunderlich, a re-enactor and executive director of the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in Frederick, Maryland.

Interest in re-enacting has ebbed and flowed over the decades.

"You get the Ken Burns se-

ries on the Civil War coming out and everyone wants to be a re-enactor. Then it ebbed," said Mike Stivers of Summerville, South Carolina, who has been re-enacting more than 10 years.

There was renewed interest in the early 2000s when the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley was raised and "now with the 150th, you're going

to have another resurgence," Stivers said.

The 150th anniversary will expose even more people to the war, just as the centennial was a chance to educate young people half a century ago, said Katie Lawhon, a spokeswoman for Gettysburg National Military Park.

"I know a lot of people who tell me when they first got interested in the Civil War, it was because they were here in 1963," Lawhon said.

For Wayne Jones, of Aiken, South Carolina, who portrays Confederate Maj. Gen. Jeb Stuart, bringing history alive for kids is a big part of the excitement surrounding the sesquicentennial.

"It's a chance for us to teach by giving people a real opportunity to use their five senses to understand," he said.

For re-enactors, the hobby is not inexpensive. A replica musket, jackets, pants, brogans and shirts can easily cost \$1,400. That is for a basic kit. It is more if you portray an officer or a Calvary soldier, or if you are in the artillery and have to buy a cannon.

Civil War supplies can be had online or from merchants who

sell items to soldiers in the field at re-enactments.

"It's a lot of money. It's a lot of time, but it's something you really have a love for," said David Coon of Aiken, South Carolina, a re-enactor for 16 years.

Re-enactors like Buddy Jarrels of Conway, South Carolina, say more young people are joining the ranks where he has marched for 35 years.

"There are enough of us who have engrained in the younger ones that love of history," he said. "I think with the 150th the hobby is safe. I really don't see it dying or going away."

Enthusiasts say women, too, are increasingly involved. Wendy Pena-Smith moved to Charleston from Boston six months ago and took up the hobby after checking off other wishes such as learning to blow glass and traveling to Scotland. "I picked this as one of the things to learn for my bucket list," said Pena-Smith, 51.

Linda Berry of Johns Island, South Carolina, joins her daughter at re-enactments portraying a family who are refugees of war.

"A weekend with no shower and cooking over a stove makes me realize what my ancestors went through," she said.

Austrian cafe icon Hawelka turns 100

VIENNA (AP)—Leopold Hawelka, whose famous cafe in the Austrian capital is considered an institution by locals and tourists alike, celebrated his 100th birthday Monday amid much fanfare.

The Cafe Hawelka, which opened in 1939, is perhaps the most celebrated of hundreds of coffeehouses in Vienna where young and old spend hours reading newspapers, chatting or simply people watching.

For decades, it attracted world renowned writers and artists such as Arthur Miller and Andy Warhol, who would discuss their ideas in the once smoke-filled establishment with worn sofas, small tables and old style, dark wooden coat racks. Now, it draws an eclectic crowd that includes a fair share of travelers who read about it in guidebooks.

On Monday, longtime patrons, family members, friends

and even city officials crowded into the small and stuffy coffee shop—located on a quiet street in the heart of Vienna—to wish Hawelka well with songs, anecdotes and poems.

Hawelka himself was too weak to attend the party, but his smiling portrait perched on a striped couch served as a reminder of the centenarian who still, to this day, spends the occasional morning watching over the waiters dressed in a blazer and bow tie.

Longtime patron Annemarie Eppinger, clutching a bunch of yellow and red flowers, recited a poem she penned about Hawelka and his wife, Josefine, who died in 2005 at the age of 91.

Later, she recalled how, years ago, Hawelka had watched over her niece as she studied at the cafe, shooing away anyone who wanted to distract her.

"He was like a father to her,"

Eppinger said as she squeezed past a waiter juggling multiple trays laden with coffee cups and a type of jam-filled pastry known as "Buchteln" in German that Josefine used to make and serve warm to customers.

Robert de Clercq, a 75-year-old Dutchman, said he first met Hawelka more than 42 years ago and immediately felt at ease in his cafe.

"It was my living room when I was in Vienna," he said fondly.

Despite his absence, Hawelka also got his share of birthday presents. Austria's post office, for example, released a special stamp in his honor and Andreas Mailath-Pokorny, Vienna's cultural affairs alderman, brought a small golden statuette.

Hawelka's 70-year-old son Guenter, who now runs the establishment with his two adult sons, appeared pleased but not surprised by the enthusiastic turnout.

"He's a Vienna coffeehouse legend after all," he said of his father proudly.



Hawelka

Message of Appreciation

We, the family of the late

†Jesus Ricardo Palacios Agulto

Lovingly known as "Cbu"

December 07, 1954 – March 20, 2011

Extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our relatives and friends, from near and far, for all your love, prayers and condolences during our moments of sorrow. To all who have supported us in one way or another, for your presence at the Mass of intention, nightly rosaries, Eucharistic Celebration & interment.

Your precious prayers, love support, and condolences has helped us during our most difficult times and has also given us the courage to accept that although, our beloved "Jesus" has gone from our lives and into his final resting place, he will always live among us in our hearts. Your presence and sacrifices during this difficult time is greatly appreciated.

Thank You & Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Rita Ramangmou Agulto, Children and Family

Police: Rare comic taken from Nic Cage resurfaces

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A valuable comic featuring the debut of Superman has resurfaced in a storage locker, and police said Monday that it appears to be the same one stolen from Nicolas Cage more than a decade ago.

The mint copy of Action Comics No. 1 was in police custody after being found last week in a San Fernando Valley storage locker. An investigation into its theft and recovery is under way.

The comic was authenticated and appears to be



Cage

the one stolen from Cage in 2000, said Detective Don Hrycyk with the Los Angeles Police Department's Art Theft Detail.

It is unclear whether the 1938 comic will be returned to the Oscar-winning actor. Hrycyk said Cage accepted an insurance payout after its

theft and will have to work out the details with the company.

The actor made clear in a statement that he would like it back. "It is divine providence that the comic was found and I am hopeful that the heirloom will be returned to my family," Cage said in a statement released by his publicist.

Cage is an avid comic collector, and the Action Comics issue is one of the highest-coveted books in superhero history. A copy of the issue was sold in March 2010 for \$1.5 million. It was originally sold for 10 cents.

The recovery of Cage's comic was first reported Sunday by the Ventura County Star. The paper said it was found in a storage locker in the San

Fernando Valley last week and that a comic collector who originally sold the book to Cage verified its authenticity.

Hrycyk said his investigation is in its early stages and he is checking out all the stories about how the comic was found.

The detective said a number of false leads on the comic were generated over the years, including a tip in 2002 that the issue was in a safe deposit box in Tennessee. Police searched the box, but found a replica of the comic's cover, which depicts Superman hoisting a car over his head, wrapped around a woman's lingerie catalog.

U2 sets record for highest-grossing tour

By TODD MARTENS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—U2 isn't a band that does things on the cheap. When frontman Bono and guitarist The Edge went to Broadway, they did so via "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark," which has already earned itself the distinction of being the most expensive show in Broadway history. The band's "360 Tour" has been no bargain either, with costs tallying at least \$750,000 per day, according to Billboard, whether or not the band even has a gig that night.

So perhaps the news Monday released via concert promoter Live Nation that trumpets the "360 Tour" as the highest-grossing rock 'n' roll endeavor ever should come with an asterisk. After all, no doubt it's one of the most expensive traveling rock shows ever, if not the most. Yet with 26 dates to go, the "360 Tour" has grossed more than \$554 million since it launched in 2009. That beats a previous record set by the Rolling Stones' "Bigger Bang Tour."

In the statement, U2 manager Paul McGuinness was quoted as saying, "That dollar figure for the gross looks enormous. Of course I can't tell you what the net is, but I can tell you that the band spend enormous sums on production for their audience."

U2 only operates the scale of grand these days, but big, of course, is not always directly related to artistry. "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark," for instance, is the Broadway show the critics love to hate, and the "360 Tour" came at something of an odd time for U2. The trek was staged in support of the band's 2009 album, "No Line on the Horizon," which, while successful, didn't spawn a hit on par with a "Beautiful Day" or an "Evolution."

In fact, "No Line" represented U2's more adventurous side, with slow-building songs that touched on gospel and largely avoided the knock-em-dead chorus or guitar riff. It was a more atmospheric-leaning collection, and one with many songs, such as the seven-minute "Moment of Surrender," that begged for an intimacy not found in stadiums. For a band well-versed in anthems, it was down-right experimental, as U2 had released one of its quietest albums on the verge of staging its biggest tour.

Fans shouldn't have to wait too long to see where U2 heads after the "360 Tour," which is named so for its construction of space-alien-like theater-in-the-round contraption. Bono has been vocal in saying U2 has plenty of material waiting in the wings, including an album that the band has been working on with producer Danger Mouse (Gnarls Barkley, Broken Bells).

Working with Danger Mouse should be an encouraging sign for those aching for a more challenging U2. Yet the stage for the "360 Tour" was said to have cost upward of \$40 million to build, and one doesn't make that kind of investment only to scale back.

Wills, Kate to NW England in last pre-wedding trip

BLACKBURN, England (AP)—Prince William and fiancée Kate Middleton brought their electric smiles to northwest England for the last trip in their pre-wedding tour of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Adoring crowds in Blackburn on Monday ignored a steady rain and lined up early to get a glimpse of the royal couple, who plan to marry April 29 at Westminster Abbey in London. One of them, Lillian Sleigh, braved the weather in her wheelchair, which was decorated with Union Jacks and pictures of the royal couple.

"I came here early, even though it's pouring with rain, to make sure I get the best chance of seeing William and Kate," she said. "They're a lovely couple and as for William, his mother Diana would have been so proud of him."

The trip marked Middleton's final introduction to the royal duties that will become a regular part of her life and gave people across the United Kingdom a glimpse of their likely future queen.

Most observers agree the four trips were a big success, with the youthful Middleton showing an adroit touch with Britons from all walks of life. She also won style points for her fashion choices and won people over with her easy smile and relaxed demeanor.

William, in a blue suit and dark tie, played the role of proud husband-to-be to near perfection. He let Middleton take center stage most of the time even as he handled public speaking duties, including a brief speech Monday in support of an educational charity.

The royal couple arrived first at the Darwen Aldridge Community Academy, where William launched a "prince's award" for the educational charity SkillForce.

They then visited Witton Country Park in the afternoon as part of William's commitment to protect outdoor recreational spaces. Crowds swelled there despite the damp, leaden skies and police were out in force.

The sun came out, as if on cue, when William and Middleton arrived at the sports field.

"It was absolutely worth the wait," said Linda



Britain's Prince William shakes hands with well-wishers following a visit to Darwen Aldridge Community Academy in Darwen, England, Monday April 11, 2011.

Gregson, 52, of Darwen, after spending 2 and 1/2 hours in the rain with her son to briefly see the royal couple.

Middleton looked elegant, with her hair partly swept up and wearing a navy skirt and matching tailored jacket. She carried a matching clutch bag and wore high-heeled shoes despite the damp weather and mushy athletic field, where she started a race for

teenage girls by dropping a white flag.

She and William mingled easily with youths competing in a series of athletic events, including a cycling competition for disabled teens. They shook hands several well-wishers and accepted bouquets of flowers, and Middleton showed her sapphire-and-diamond engagement ring to two young girls who asked for a close-up look.

Cameron says 3-D TV broadcasts must use 2-D talent

By OSKAR GARCIA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS (AP)—"Avatar" director James Cameron said Monday that 3-D productions on television need the know-how of 2-D directors and producers to make economic sense for broadcasters and be compelling for viewers.

The director known for championing 3-D technology told an overflow crowd at the National Association of Broadcasters Show in Las Vegas that 3-D won't work on TV if production companies can't utilize the talent they already have.

"People can't completely reinvent how they do things," Cameron said.

It costs too much to hire separate crews to produce the same content in 3-D and 2-D, and separate 3-D productions lose the expertise that comes from directors and produc-

ers who have filmed for years in 2-D, he said.

"To grow this market rapidly and correctly with high quality 3-D, let people do what they do," Cameron said.

Cameron said that when he began adopting 3-D technologies into his own filmmaking, he didn't want to use heavy rigs that would take away his opportunities to shoot hand-held or use other techniques.

"I approached that as a director saying, 'Well, I don't want to change the way I make movies,'" he said. "I think the language of cinema is what it is, different people have different styles and so on, but I don't want to be denied my normal tool set."

Cameron and his business part-

ner, Vince Pace, spoke to open the show for media and entertainment professionals. NAB officials said 90,000 people are expected to attend the show through Thursday, with some 1,500 companies offering the latest in broadcasting, production and related equipment.

The National Association of Broadcasters is the largest U.S. trade group for radio and television broadcasters and serves as the industry's lobby to the federal government. The group's CEO, Gordon Smith, was expected to outline the state of the broadcast industry in a speech on Tuesday.

Issues being discussed at the show include future business opportunities created through the recent transition

to digital broadcasting, regulatory challenges and how broadcasters are adapting to fast-moving changes in mobile technology.

Cameron and Pace announced the formation of their own company on Monday, the Cameron-Pace Group. They described the business as an end-to-end company helping broadcasters work in 3-D.

Cameron said early attempts at 3-D in sports didn't work as well as they could have because the 3-D and 2-D productions were separated, with the 2-D producers getting better personnel and camera positions.

"They were sort of treated as a red-headed stepchild, and then everybody cried that it was costing them too much because there were two entire crews," he said.

Instead, there's going to be one combined 3-D/2-D production, Cameron said.



Cameron

Reese Witherspoon says she misses her privacy

Mexican opera composer Catan dies in Texas

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Mexican composer Daniel Catan has died while working on a new opera in Austin, Texas, a University of Texas spokeswoman said Monday. He was 62.

The cause of his death on Friday was not immediately released.

Catan was best known in the United States for his operatic adaptation of the Italian film "Il Postino," which is sung in Spanish. The Los Angeles Opera premiered "Il Postino" last year with Plácido Domingo playing the poet Pablo Neruda and tenor Charles Castronovo as the wide-eyed postman Mario Ruoppolo.

The performance won rave reviews, and the University of Houston performed the opera over the weekend. The opera is more traditional than most contemporary compositions, with arias, duets and lush tonal music, closer to the style of Puccini.

The Butler School of Music had commissioned Catan to create an opera from the Frank Capra film, "Meet John Doe," and he was temporarily living in Austin, said Leslie Lyon, a spokeswoman for the University of Texas's College of Fine Arts.

He became the first Mexican composer to have his work performed in the United States when the San Diego Opera produced "Rappaccini's Daughter" in 1994. Catan was also known for his 1996 opera "Florence in the Amazon," which included elements of magical realism. He had also composed symphonies, choral works, a ballet and a film score.

A native of Mexico City, Catan was of Jewish and Russian descent. He received a doctorate from Princeton in composition and studied philosophy at Britain's University of Sussex.



NEW YORK (AP)—Reese Witherspoon mourns the loss of her privacy.

The Oscar-winning actress says she sometimes sits in her car crying because she cannot go out in public as much as she'd like.

Witherspoon says in the May issue of Vogue that although much of her life belongs to other people, but she wouldn't trade it.

The 35-year-old says that whatever she's lost, she's gained tenfold in life experience.

Witherspoon also says she feels blessed that her friends help provide some privacy.

Her latest film, "Water for Elephants," will be released April 22.

Witherspoon plays a scrappy circus star willing to do whatever it takes to survive. The Depression-era drama is based on the best-selling novel.

Robert Pattinson co-stars as her love interest in the film.

This image released by Vogue shows the cover of the May 2011 magazine with Reese Witherspoon.

UK Prime Minister: Yes to royal wedding parties

LONDON (AP)—Britons: your country needs you to party.

Prime Minister David Cameron on Monday urged local authorities not to use bureaucratic rules to prevent street parties celebrating the April 29 royal wedding.

Cameron said civic councils should not block plans for parties by imposing rules requiring licenses, insurance protection and other bits of red tape.

"I'm very much saying today if people want to have a street

party, don't listen to people who say it's all bureaucracy and health and safety, and you can't do it," Cameron said.

"It's very important to understand if anyone wants to have a street party you don't need a food license, you don't need an entertainment license, you don't need to have written documents about closing your street. ... If you do want to celebrate with Catherine and with William, you should go ahead and do so."

The prime minister was responding to persistent reports that councils are putting up roadblocks to parties planned to mark the union of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

In addition, the anti-monarchist group Republic says its plans for a "not the royal wedding" party are being blocked by London's Camden Council.

Republic said the council approved the party last month, but has since said it will not close the street to traffic for the day.

'The Office' to bid Carell farewell on April 28

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC is confirming April 28 as the date for Steve Carell's final appearance on "The Office."

The network said Monday that Carell's farewell episode on the popular comedy will be supersized.

NBC says that night's long good-bye will air from 9 to 9:50 p.m. Eastern time (0100 to 0150GMT), followed by an extended version of "Parks and Recreation" that concludes at 10:30 p.m. Eastern (0230 GMT).

Carell, who plays inept branch manager Michael Scott, announced last year that this would be his last season on the series, which premiered in 2005. NBC has made no announcement about who might fill the gap in the cast.



In this undated publicity photo released by NBC, actor Steve Carell appears in this scene from the television series "The Office."

Open gay man isn't happy being his partner's secret

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I am a 25-year-old gay man who has been in a relationship for two years with a guy who just turned 30. My problem is he has not yet told his family about me.

He has been around my family, and they view him as part of the family. I want the same with his parents and sibling. I think he should have told them by now.

Is it OK to give him an ultimatum to either tell his family or I'll leave? I don't want to be a secret anymore, and I don't know how to handle this.

OUT AND PROUD IN BALTIMORE

DEAR OUT AND PROUD: It appears your boyfriend has not yet come out to his family—or if he did, it didn't go well. Although your family accepts him and the fact that you are a couple, the same may not be possible with his. Your boyfriend may need counseling in order to gain the strength to level with his parents and sibling. Because you are no longer willing to be kept under wraps, you do need to make that clear to him. But do not give him an ultimatum unless you are prepared to follow through.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My unmarried sister passed away unexpectedly two years ago. My brother, other sister and I had a difficult time locating her personal accounts and bills because she did everything online. This prompted me to begin writing down all my passwords for my computer and storing the list in a secure location. I have asked my husband of 29 years to do the same, but he refuses.

My husband has given me the information on our joint financial accounts, but insists that his email account is private.

I told him he doesn't have to give me the password. I just want him to write it down in the event something happens. I told him I have nothing to hide, but does he? He got angry, and we are barely speaking now.

Five years ago, I found out he was trading questionable emails with a divorced cocktail waitress, and now I'm concerned. He frequents bars after work, and I can't help but worry. Should I drop it or ask him what he's hiding?

NOTHING TO HIDE IN OHIO

DEAR NOTHING TO HIDE: Folks who are secretive usually have something to hide. Your husband's past behavior coupled with his refusal to let you have the password to his email account indicates that he's not proud of what you would find. If you're willing to accept the status quo, drop the subject. However, if you assert yourself and pursue this, the first person you should talk to is your lawyer because you may need one.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My mother was recently invited to a shower and was given specific instructions NOT to put her name on the gift. The reason? The honoree plans to issue one general thank-you to everyone because she "doesn't have the time" to send individual thank-you notes.

Abby, if someone takes the time and spends the money to buy a gift, shouldn't the recipient be gracious enough to write a personal note?

THOUGHT I'D HEARD IT ALL IN OHIO

DEAR THOUGHT: Of course she should! If the honoree is so busy that she plans to forgo thanking her guests for their generosity, she should save everyone's time, money and effort and forgo the shower.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Italy's Bertolucci to be honored at Cannes

PARIS (AP) — The organizers of the Cannes Film Festival say they will honor Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci with an honorary Palme d'Or at the opening ceremony of this year's 11-day-long cinema extravaganza. The Palme d'Or is the festival's top prize, usually awarded by the jury to one of the films in competition. But honorary Palmes d'Or have been bestowed upon "important filmmakers, whose work is authoritative" but who've

never won the award, including Woody Allen in 2002 and Clint Eastwood in 2009. Cannes organizers said in a statement Monday that Bertolucci, director of 1978's "The Last Emperor" and 1982's "Last Tango in Paris," will be presented the award during the May 11 inauguration. The festival runs through May 22.

Benicio del Toro expecting child with Kim Stewart

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Benicio del Toro is becoming a father. A spokeswoman for

the 44-year-old actor says del Toro is expecting a child with reality star Kimberly Stewart, who is rock star Rod Stewart's daughter. Publicist Robin Baum says that "although they are not a couple," del Toro and Kimberly Stewart are looking forward to the baby's arrival. She says, "Benicio is the father and is very supportive." Del Toro won an Academy Award for his supporting role in 2000's "Traffic." His other credits include "The Wolfman," "Sin City" and "21 Grams." The 31-year-old Stewart starred in the 2007 reality show "Living with ... Kimberly Stewart."

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WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Jan

Find today's solution in this section

James scores 34, Heat hold off Hawks



ATLANTA (AP)—LeBron James scored 34 points and Miami locked up the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference with a 98-90 win over the Atlanta Hawks, who nearly rallied from a 20-point deficit while going with their backups against the Big Three in the fourth quarter Monday night.

Miami played its starters all the way, looking to clinch the second spot behind Chicago in the East. Shortly after beating the Hawks, the Heat got the news they wanted: third-place Boston lost at Washington in overtime.

The Hawks, who are locked into the fifth seed, went to a makeshift lineup for the final period and almost pulled it off.

The game turned ugly with 3 1/2 minutes to go. Atlanta's Zaza Pachulia powered inside for a basket. Zydrunas Ilgauskas took exception to the move and slammed the ball off Pachulia's back as he turned to head back down the court.

Ilgauskas was ejected, and the Hawks hit the technical free throw to tie it at 88. But Miami outscored the Hawks 10-2 the rest of the way, with James Jones making two huge 3-pointers—including one that turned into a four-play when he was fouled by a leaping Josh Powell, sending both players flying out of bounds.

The Hawks pulled their starters for the fourth quarter. Pachulia, Powell, Jamal Crawford, Jeff Teague and Damien Wilkins held their own, actually outscoring Miami 23-19.

It wasn't enough.

Bosh drew a charging foul on Powell with just over a minute left, and James clinched it with his final basket of the night. The Big Three combined for 70 points, with Dwyane Wade adding 21—the bulk of his scoring coming in the first half—and Bosh adding 15.

James also had 10 rebounds, seven assists and three steals.

Josh Smith led the Hawks with 17 points, but it wasn't enough to prevent Atlanta from a season-high fifth straight loss—hardly the way the team wants to go into a first-round playoff matchup with Orlando, a team that wiped out the Hawks in four straight games a year ago.

Still, the gutty play of the bench provided some spark for a team that has looked downright lethargic at times during an up-and-down season. Crawford had 13 points, Teague 10, Pachulia scored nine and Wilkins finished with eight, playing an entire quarter against three of the NBA's best players.

They just ran out of steam at the end. And Miami's Big Three had another stretch that raised questions about well they'll hold up over the grind of the playoffs.

The Heat appeared to break it open over the final 6 1/2 minutes of the second quarter, hitting 11 of its last 14 shots against Atlanta's supposed starters, who had no answer defensively.

Wade handled most of the scoring load with 13 points—including 9 in a row—during a closing 25-15 run that turned a tight game into a 62-46 lead for the Heat by halftime. James and Bosh did the rest, combining for Miami's other points during the spurt.

Miami closed with a flourish.

Mario Chalmers lobbed up a pass that James slammed through. After the



Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) gestures after a charging call against Atlanta Hawks center Josh Powell, right, in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game Monday, April 11, 2011 in Atlanta. AP

Hawks turned it over, Wade went in for a thunderous slam. Bosh knocked down a 20-foot jumper. Wade finished it off with a darting dash through the lane, deking one way, then another and finally laying it in against a befuddled Wilkins.

D-Wade didn't even stop running as the horn sounded, sprinting straight to the locker room and high-fiving a Heat fan on his way to the tunnel.

Cavaliers 110, Pistons 101

At Auburn Hills, Daniel Gibson scored 17 points, including a five-point play late in the third quarter, as the Cavaliers won a testy game in which two players were ejected after a skirmish.

Ryan Hollins and the Pistons' Charlie Villanueva became entangled with 5:47 left in the game, and appeared to push each other in the face. Both were ejected, and Villanueva had to be restrained as he headed off.

Later, Villanueva came out of the Pistons' locker room and sprinted toward Cleveland's locker room, but was stopped by police on a loading dock.

Magic 95, 76ers 85

At Philadelphia, Dwight Howard returned from a suspension to score 19 points and grab 13 rebounds, while Ryan Anderson added 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Magic.

Howard served an NBA suspension Sunday after picking up his 18th technical foul.

Jameer Nelson also scored 13 for Orlando, which used a 16-2 run in the third quarter to shake off the Sixers.

Elton Brand led the Sixers with 22 points. Philadelphia is stuck on 41 wins and needs one in Wednesday's finale for its first winning record since 2004-05.

Jazz 90, Hornets 78

At New Orleans, C.J. Miles and Devin

Harris each scored 18 points and Paul Millsap added 16 as the Jazz won for only the second time in 12 games.

Chris Paul, who went scoreless for the first time in his career in a loss at Memphis a night earlier, had 15 points. Marco Belinelli, who had 13 points, was the only other starter in double figures for New Orleans, which shot 37.8 percent (28 of 74) while dropping its second straight.

The Hornets (46-35), who are already playoff-bound, now hold the eighth seed in the Western Conference, a half game behind Memphis (46-34) and 1 1/2 games behind Portland (46-33).

Bucks 93, Raptors 86

At Milwaukee, Brandon Jennings broke free for three straight fast-break scores to give Milwaukee the lead in the fourth quarter, and the Bucks held on to beat undermanned Toronto.

John Salmons scored 24 points and Jennings added 21 for the Bucks in their final home game of what has been a disappointing season.

It may have been the final game at the Bradley Center in a Bucks uniform for Michael Redd, the team's longest-tenured player. Redd played 14 minutes, scoring two points on 1-for-6 shooting.

Jerryd Bayless scored 20 for Toronto in a matchup between two teams eliminated from playoff contention. The injury-riddled Raptors used only eight players.

Bobcats 105, Nets 103

At Newark, D.J. Augustin hit a jumper with 1.1 seconds remaining, leading Charlotte over New Jersey.

Nets guard Sasha Vujacic, who finished with 19 points, hit a long 3-pointer to tie the game at 103 with 10.9 seconds remaining.

Augustin, who had 19 points and 11 assists, brought the ball down the floor. With 5 seconds left, he used a crossover dribble to get some distance, then made the 19-foot jumper while falling down.

Nets center Brook Lopez, who scored a game-high 31 points, heaved a desperation shot at the buzzer that was wide left.

Wizards 95, Celtics 94, OT

At Washington, Boston didn't play four of its usual starters, essentially setting aside its bid for a better playoff seed for the chance to give its top players some rest, and the result was an overtime loss to Washington that handed the Miami Heat the No. 2 spot in the Eastern Conference.

With Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen, Paul Pierce and Rajon Rondo watching from the bench, Celtics coach Doc Rivers made it clear that a fresh crew ready for the postseason was more important than using up energy to try to climb one rung in the standings in the season's final days.

Boston's loss, combined with Miami's 98-90 win over Atlanta, guaranteed the Heat will finish second and the Celtics will place third.

John Wall had 24 points, nine rebounds and three assists to lead the lottery-bound Wizards in their home finale.

Jeff Green scored 20 points and tied his career high with 15 rebounds in his first Celtics start. Glen Davis also had 20 points. Jermaine O'Neal, who needed the playing time after missing much of the season with a sore knee, had seasons highs in both points (15) and rebounds (13).

Mavericks 98, Rockets 91, OT

At Houston, Dirk Nowitzki had 23 points and 12 rebounds as the Mavericks beat the Rockets and moved a half game

ahead of Los Angeles for second spot in the Western Conference.

Shawn Marion and Jason Terry scored 21 points each, and Tyson Chandler had 12 rebounds for the Mavs, who snapped a three-game road losing streak by beating Houston for the fourth straight time.

Kevin Martin scored 28 for the Rockets, who were eliminated from playoff contention Friday.

Terry had a chance to win the game in regulation, but missed the second of two free throws with 1.5 seconds remaining. The Rockets missed their first four shots of overtime, and Chandler dunked and Terry hit a jumper from the wing to put Dallas in front to stay.

Nuggets 134, Warriors 111

At Denver, J.R. Smith's 22 points led nine Nuggets in double figures and Kosta Koufos equaled his career high with 18 points in Denver's win over Golden State.

The injury-riddled Nuggets reached 50 wins for the fourth straight season and clinched the fifth seed in the Western Conference. Yet, they're limping into the playoffs.

On the same night forward Arron Affalo and center Chris "Birdman" Andersen returned to action, center Nene strained his left groin and missed the second half. The Nuggets said he's day to day.

Stephen Curry and Dorell Wright each scored 27 for Golden State.

Thunder 120, Kings 112

At Sacramento, Kevin Durant scored 32 points and Russell Westbrook had 30 points and nine assists for the Thunder, who won their fifth consecutive game.

Oklahoma City (55-26) has clinched the Northwest Division and will be seeded no worse than fourth in the playoffs. It trails Dallas by a game and the Los Angeles Lakers by a half game.

DeMarcus Cousins made 18 of 21 free throws and had a career-high 30 points and nine rebounds for the Kings, who have dropped six straight to the Thunder. Marcus Thornton had 21 points and nine rebounds, Beno Udrih also scored 21 and Jason Thompson added 16.

Suns 135, Timberwolves 127, OT

At Phoenix, Channing Frye scored a game-high 33 points and hit a 3-pointer with 2:05 left in overtime to start an 8-0 run as Phoenix handed Minnesota its 14th consecutive loss.

After Anthony Randolph missed an 18-footer, Grant Hill scored on a 12-foot jumper with 1:27 remaining to give the Suns a four-point lead. Jared Dudley added a 3-pointer from the right corner with 47.2 seconds left to make it 131-124.

Hill had a chance to end the game in regulation but his catch-and-shoot 6-footer at the buzzer rolled off the back of the rim to keep the game tied at 121-121.

Dudley scored 26 points and Hill had 21 for the Suns, who snapped a two-game losing streak.

Michael Beasley scored 16 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter and overtime and Randolph added 24 for the Timberwolves, who led by 12 in the first half.

Dodgers' Clayton Kershaw shuts down Giants again



SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Clayton Kershaw shut down the Giants again with his big-breaking curveball and Rod Barajas homered as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat San Francisco 6-1 on Monday night.

Kershaw (2-1) struck out seven, walked two and gave up six hits in 6 2-3 innings, and he hasn't allowed a run over his last 23 2-3 innings against the Giants. That includes seven scoreless innings on opening day and a complete game last Sept. 14.

Andre Ethier had a pair of run-scoring singles and Matt Kemp also had an RBI single in the Dodgers' four-run fifth against Madison Bumgarner (0-2), started by Barajas' drive to left-center for his second homer of the year.

Pat Burrell broke up Los Angeles' shutout bid with a solo homer against Mike MacDougal leading off the ninth that hit the left-field foul pole.

Reds 3, Padres 2

At San Diego, Chris Heisey hit a two-run homer and Jonny Gomes added a solo shot as Cincinnati spoiled the season debut of Padres ace Mat Latos.

Latos had been on the disabled list with a sore right shoulder. He lost his sixth straight start dating to September.

The homers got Edinson Volquez (2-0) off the hook after another rough first inning. He allowed two runs, making it nine combined in the opening inning in his first three starts. Volquez allowed only one more hit in the next five innings. He finished with five strikeouts and two walks.

Latos (0-1) started strongly with five strikeouts in his first three innings. He got out of a first-inning jam when he struck out Gomes to strand runners on first and second.

Cardinals 8, Diamondbacks 2

At Phoenix, Kyle McClellan got his first major-league win as a starter and drove in two runs with a pair of hits.

Lance Berkman hit two home runs and Jon Jay added a pinch-hit homer for St. Louis.

McClellan (1-0) made it through six innings allowing a run on seven hits with four walks and four strikeouts.

The Diamondbacks came back in their half of the fourth with a run off McClellan. Young doubled and came home two batters later on a single by Melvin Mora. Arizona had runners on first and second with one out in the fourth before starter Barry Enright (0-1) grounded into an inning-ending double play.

Cubs 5, Astros 4

At Houston, Starlin Castro, Darwin Barney and Marlon Byrd combined for seven hits, five runs and three RBIs.

Castro had three hits and scored three runs, Byrd drove in a pair of runs and Barney hit an RBI triple as the Cubs jumped on the Astros early, building a 5-0 lead by the fourth inning. Alfonso Soriano drove in two runs with a double in the first.

Closer Carlos Marmol got the last four outs to help the Cubs to the win and give him his fourth save. Ryan Dempster (1-2) got his first win of the season, allowing four runs in 6 1-3 innings.

Houston starter Nelson Figueroa (0-2) allowed eight hits and five runs in four innings.

Rockies 7, Mets 6

At New York, Troy Tulowitzki homered



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws against the San Francisco Giants during the first inning of their baseball game in San Francisco, Monday, April, 11, 2011.

and drove in three runs, and Carlos Gonzalez also had three RBIs.

Tulowitzki made a terrific jump throw from shortstop to preserve a seventh-inning tie and Seth Smith reached base four times, including on a triple and a double. The Rockies improved to 7-2, with the only two losses coming in extra innings, to match the best nine-game start in franchise history.

Jason Hammel pitched six respectable innings and Colorado took the opener of a four-game series, winning its third straight road game. The Rockies are 4-1 away from Coors Field after going 31-50 on the road last year.

Huston Street worked a perfect ninth for his fifth save in five chances. Matt Belisle (2-0) got the final two outs in the seventh, with some help from Tulowitzki.

Dexter Fowler singled off Bobby Parnell (0-1) to open the eighth and moved to third on a sacrifice and a wild pitch. Gonzalez hit a comebacker and Parnell had a good chance to get Fowler at the plate, but he threw over the head of catcher Josh Thole.

Rangers 2, Tigers 0

At Detroit, Alexi Ogando outpitched Justin Verlander before injuring his finger in the Texas Rangers' win over Detroit.

The AL champions improved to nine wins from 10 games, the top record in the majors and matching the best 10-game start in team history.

Rangers closer Neftali Feliz retired the first two batters in the ninth inning before Ryan Raburn doubled. The Rangers then intentionally walked Miguel Cabrera, bringing Victor Martinez to the plate as the potential winning run. Martinez grounded out on a 2-0 pitch to end it.

Michael Young and Mitch Moreland hit RBI doubles in the seventh inning as Texas equaled the start of its 1989 club.

Ogando (2-0) gave up just two hits, walked one and struck four over seven innings in his second start in the majors.

Barry Bonds waits as jury deliberates 2nd day

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Barry Bonds is going to have a longer wait for his verdict.

The jury considering four felony counts against the home run king deliberated without a conclusion for the second day Monday. The eight women and four men, who started their discussions on Friday before a weekend break, will resume work Tuesday morning.

The gap between closing arguments and verdict has grown longer than the gap between Bonds' record-tying and record-breaking home runs in 2007. The former MVP broke Hank Aaron's home run record on Aug. 7 when he hit No. 756, three days after matching Aaron.

Bonds, who also holds the single-season home run mark of 73, is charged with three counts of making false statements to a grand jury in 2003 and one count of obstruction of justice. He's accused of lying when he denied receiving steroids and human growth hormone from personal trainer Greg Anderson, and for saying he allowed only doctors to give him an injection.

For those trying to get a peek into

the jury's thoughts, the panel has made requests to rehear two pieces of evidence that both center on the injection count.

On Friday, the jurors asked to hear a replay of the 2003 secret recording made by former Bonds business partner Steve Hoskins in which Anderson talks about injecting the slugger. Before the resumption of deliberations Monday, the panel spent 71 minutes hearing court reporter James Yeomans read back the March 31 testimony of Bonds' former personal shopper Kathy Hoskins—Steve's sister. She testified that she saw Anderson inject Bonds near the navel in 2002, becoming the only one of 25 witnesses at the trial to claim firsthand knowledge of Bonds being injected.

"This was very damaging testimony that contrasted starkly with his denials of steroid use that are the heart of this perjury case," said legal observer Joshua Berman, a former prosecutor who is now a criminal defense attorney in Washington D.C.

However, it's impossible to discern how many of the 12 jurors are focusing on that testimony and whether they feel the injection answer was material,

or in layman's terms, important, to the grand jury's investigation. To convict Bonds of making a false statement, the jury must find both that what Bonds said was a lie and one that had an effect on the grand jury.

Anderson was jailed during the trial because he refused to testify. No witnesses said they personally saw Bonds receive drugs—Kathy Hoskins said she did not ask what was in the syringe Anderson used on Bonds.

Now 46, Bonds testified before the grand jury that he never knowingly used performance-enhancing drugs, and that Anderson told him he was using flaxseed oil and arthritic balm—not designer steroids that were undetectable at the time.

Most of the jurors scribbled notes when Hoskins' testimony about the injection was read back. Bonds, wearing a dark suit, white shirt and blue tie, kept an eye on the jurors during early portions of the reading, then focused on the clerk.

Just before the jury finished for the day at 3:45 p.m., lead Bonds lawyer Allen Ruby was in the hallway outside the courtroom, wondering when deliberations would be recessed.

His outing was cut short by fluid under a callus on his right index finger. Ogando pitched six scoreless innings last week with a blister on the same finger.

Indians 4, Angels 0

At Anaheim, California, Mitch Talbot took a shutout into the ninth inning, and Asdrubal Cabrera and Matt LaPorta homered to lead Cleveland to its eighth straight win.

The winning streak is Cleveland's longest since a 10-game stretch in August 2008. The Indians, coming off a sweep at Seattle, have started out 4-0 on the road for the first time since 1998 (6-0). Their 8-2 start overall is their best since 2002, when they opened 12-1.

Talbot (1-0) came within three outs of his first big-league shutout, allowing five hits and two walks while striking out four. He was lifted after Bobby Abreu led off the ninth with a double on Talbot's 112th pitch.

Vinnie Pestano retired the final three batters in order.

Rays 16, Red Sox 5

At Boston, Sam Fuld went 4 for 6 with a two-run homer, drove in three runs and fell a single shy of the cycle to lead Tampa Bay.

Johnny Damon had three hits, including a solo homer, and three RBIs, and John Jaso and Reid Brignac also drove in three runs apiece for the Rays. Jeremy Hellickson (1-1) gave up two runs, five hits, walked five and struck out one in 5 1-3 innings to earn the win.

Jacoby Ellsbury hit a solo homer for the Red Sox, Adrian Gonzalez had a run-scoring triple and Carl Crawford went 2 for 5 against his former team to raise his average to .163.

Athletics 2, White Sox 1, 10 innings

At Chicago, Kurt Suzuki hit a go-ahead home run in the 10th inning as Oakland capitalized on Juan Pierre's dropped fly ball in the ninth to tie it.

The White Sox wasted a dominant pitching performance by Mark Buehrle with their second ninth-inning implosion of the season. Buehrle was lifted after eight scoreless innings and 99 pitches. He allowed only three baserunners—none past first base.

Matt Thornton, who already had two blown saves in two opportunities, came on and allowed a leadoff double to Andy LaRoche in the ninth. One out later, Daric Barton hit a deep fly that Pierre dropped in the left-field corner, allowing the tying run to score.

Suzuki put the A's ahead on a two-out solo shot off Jesse Crain (0-1).

Mariners 8, Blue Jays 7

At Seattle, Luis Rodriguez fought off nine pitches from Shawn Camp before delivering a game-winning single as the Mariners rallied from a seven-run deficit in the final three innings to stun Toronto.

Camp (0-1) played only a part in Toronto's bullpen collapse.

Milton Bradley hit a solo home run in the seventh inning and the Blue Jays' bullpen began to waste away the lead in the eighth. A walk and two singles chased Davis Purcey and loaded the bases. Octavio Dotel walked in two runs and Mark Rzepczynski walked in another before allowing a single to Justin Smoak that scored two and pulled Seattle within one.

ADA

From Page 28

closure and ask for their understanding and cooperation. Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands-sanctioned-leagues, such as the men’s and Rotary competitions are played at the Ada gym, while the Masters Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands also uses the facility for its tournaments. The Coalition of Private School Sports Association also has its playoff games at the Ada gym. *Saipan Tribune* contacted officials of these associations

to ask how will the closure impact their respective leagues, but they had yet to respond at press time. Funding for the Ada gym repairs came from a grant through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. **More funds for basketball facilities** Meanwhile, BANMI secretary general Michael White informed association members and officials through an e-mail that FIBA Oceania Board has adopted a FIBA Oceania Facilities Program, which will allot least AU\$80,000 per year to the project.

SWEEPS

From Page 28

6-2, 6-3. In the men’s 4.0 finals, Miller also dominated Park, 6-3, 6-2. Earlier in Week 1, Miller thwarted Lee in the boys U15 finals, 6-3, 6-3. Meanwhile, other doubles winners in Week 2 of the PIC tournament were Tammy Ackerman and Fil Kalen, Michael Ren and Luther Lizama, Lopez and Melody Johnson, and Carol Lee and Isabel Heras.

HANWA

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the Hoopaholics duo, Hanwa’s Banjo Basila turned in a big 10 points at crunch time to help secure the win. He finished with 27 points to lead all scorers, while Manibusan scored 25 in the loss. In the nightcap Sunday, Mobil (1-0) outlasted Ebisuya Fixers (1-1), 87-73. Mobil rallied back from a 26-35 halftime deficit and managed a 55-51 lead against the Fixers heading into the final period. Fixers’ Emir Abuen and Jon Artates combined for 20 points in the first frame, but Jorge De Guzman and Jun Estolas led the comeback with a combined 16 points as their team’s defense contained Fixers to just 15 points in the third quarter. Fixers missed a lot of easy opportunities under the basket in the fourth period, while Mobil’s Angelo Fernando came off the bench and provided nine points and numerous assists in the clutch. Fixers’ Jawn Joyner did all he could to keep his team in the game, but Mobil adjusted well to factor him out of the game and called on its speedy ball handlers to strategically milk the clock. Mobil’s Estolas finished with a game-high 30 markers, while

Ackerman and Kalen took the mixed 3.0 doubles after beating Colin Ramsey and Negahr Rastguiy in the finals, 6-3, 6-3. The winning duo drew a bye in the first round and then thumped George Poquiz and Theecel Minor in the semifinals, 6-2, 0-6, 6-1. Rastguiy and Ramsey won their first match over Bob Webb and Flor Jones, 6-0, 6-1, and then defeated Tony Reyes and Nikki Borja in the semis, 6-0, 6-1, to advance to the finals. In the girls U15 doubles, Johnson and Lopez denied

The program and funding are available for FIBA Oceania members, including the CNMI but excluding Australia and New Zealand. The program calls for the development and improvement of basketball facilities of each FIBA Oceania member. “We should try to take advantage of this program. There is a matching fund requirement, but this can in many cases be made up with labor or other in-kind contributions,” White said in his email to BANMI officials. Each FIBA Oceania member can avail as much as a \$25,000 grant and the approved project must be completed in two years

Ackerman her fourth championship after posting a 2-0 record in the round-robin event. Ackerman teamed up with Rastguiy and they settled for second place after a 1-1 card in the round-robin doubles. In the girls U12 doubles, Heras and Lee gained their lone title in the tournament after shutting out Amy Tsukagoshi and Julia Ishikawa in the finals, 8-0. Heras and Lee also blanked Sakura Imayaya and Gio Sur, 8-0, to make it to the finals. Imayaya and Hur moved

or the fund will be forfeited. Projects allowed are construction of new basketball courts (indoor or outdoor), purchase of new backboards, rings, scoring and timing equipment and portable equipment and box trailer to assists in development programs, lighting, and renovation of existing facilities. In 2009, BANMI received help from FIBA Oceania when new two FIBA standard backboards and rings and 25-second shot clock equipment were donated in time for the CNMI hosting of the Oceania Basketball Tournament. Next year, the CNMI is scheduled to host the 2011 Mi-

into the semis after an 8-2 win over Malika Miyawaki and Grace Choi. Ishikawa and Tsukagoshi gained a finals seat, following an 8-5 triumph over Tania Tan and Mimi Sakano. In the boys U12 doubles finals, Ren and Lizama edged Clayton Izuka and Alex Park, 8-6. Izuka and Park eased past Ken Song and Lloyd Kim, 8-1, to make it to the finals against Ren and Lizama, who won in the other semis tiff against Steven Goodwin and Michael Jones, 8-1.

san 25, Sablan 23, Diaz 7, Lee 8, Cabrera 6, Villagomez 4, DL-Guerrero 2. **Scoring by quarters:** 16-16, 37-27, 55-51, 79-74.

Second Game **Mobil 87** – Estolas 30, Fernando 25, De Guzman 13, Moises 7, Galzote 4, Gapor 4, Navarro 4. **Fixers 73** – Bicara 16, Pineda 14, Artates 13, Joyner 13, Abedes 5, Lansang 5, Montano 3, Abuen 2. **Scoring by quarters:** 13-16, 26-35, 55-50, 87-73.

SATURDAY First Game **Archers 80** – Morales 16, Quinitip 16, Sharry 14, Cruz 8, David 8, Yabut 6, Abuy 6, Miranda 2. **Cargo Express 67** – Lerio 14, Fitial 12, Pagarao 11, Capalad 10, Ritual 9, Jung 8, Lavaras 3. **Scoring by quarters:** 22-14, 38-28, 52-48, 80-67.

Second Game **PTC-MGD 83** – Lauron 18, Reyes 14, Babauta 8, Buniag 8, Capalad 8, Garon 6, Tagle 6, Tamayo 5, Dayrit 4, Tudela 2. **Triple J 50** – Geli 12, Obnimaga 9, Bugay 8, Palacios 7, Crisostimo 4, Jarabe 4, Fellas 2, Paglinawan 2, Siroy 2. **Scoring by quarters:** 29-10, 47-30, 69-42, 83-50.

minded its members to support this weekend’s Tinian Mayor’s Cup and next month’s COP Blue Tee Tournament/Pacific Games fundraiser. For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Olopai at 483-5508, Tony Rogolifo at 288-3515, and Wabol at 288-1129.

cronesian Basketball Tournament U17 Western Division and the FIBA Oceania grant could

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also reminded members about this weekend’s 2nd Annual Tinian Mayor’s Golf Cup at Coral Ocean Point, Mt Carmel School’s golf tournament on May 21, and the 9th Annual NMC Foundation Open on April 30. During the banquet CWGA members passed around a donation basket that raised over \$400 that will be donated to the Japanese Red Cross Tsunami and Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund. In addition, an entrance ticket into the 2011 Tournament Of Champions Golf Tournament was raffled away along with other complimentary prizes provided by sponsors LaoLao Bay, DFS Galleria Saipan, Hyatt

be used to prepare the Ada gym for the hosting of the four-nation competition. Regency Saipan, Torihide-En Japanese Cuisine, Pacific Development Inc., Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Caronel, FHP, IT&E, Marianas Resort & Spa, Tony Roma’s, Capricciosa, Saipan Shipping Company, Tasi Tours & Transportation Inc., COP, Saipan Grand Hotel, Pacific Islands Club, Saipan Country Club, Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, Coco Restaurant, Tan Holdings and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, 360 Restaurant, iConnect, Island Apparel, Hafadai Beach Hotel, Aqua Resort Club, Mar-Pac, Hertz, Taro Sue, Takagi & Associates Inc., Docomo Pacific, Pacific Trading Co. Ltd., Pure Spa, Wol Mi Jung Restaurant, Marianas Printing Service Inc., China House, Star Marianas, King Fisher Golf Links, Wushin LP Gas Corp., Mariana Country Club, and IDK.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES									
NBA STANDINGS					MLB STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE					AMERICAN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	55	26	.679	—	Baltimore	6	3	.667	—
x-New York	42	38	.525	12 1/2	New York	5	4	.556	1
x-Philadelphia	41	40	.506	14	Toronto	5	5	.500	1 1/2
New Jersey	24	57	.296	31	Boston	2	8	.200	4 1/2
Toronto	22	59	.272	33	Tampa Bay	2	8	.200	4 1/2
Southeast Division					Central Division				
y-Miami	57	24	.704	—	Cleveland	8	2	.800	—
x-Orlando	51	30	.630	6	Kansas City	6	3	.667	1 1/2
x-Atlanta	44	37	.543	13	Chicago	6	4	.600	2
Charlotte	33	48	.407	24	Minnesota	3	6	.333	4 1/2
Washington	23	58	.284	34	Detroit	3	7	.300	5
Central Division					West Division				
x-Chicago	60	20	.750	—	Texas	9	1	.900	—
x-Indiana	37	44	.457	23 1/2	Los Angeles	5	5	.500	4
Milwaukee	34	47	.420	26 1/2	Oakland	5	5	.500	4
Detroit	29	52	.358	31	Seattle	3	7	.300	6
1/2									
Cleveland	18	63	.222	42 1/2					
WESTERN CONFERENCE					NATIONAL CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division					East Division				
z-San Antonio	61	19	.763	—	Philadelphia	7	2	.778	—
x-Dallas	56	25	.691	5 1/2	Florida	5	4	.556	2
x-Memphis	46	34	.575	15	Washington	4	5	.444	3
x-New Orleans	46	35	.568	15 1/2	Atlanta	4	6	.400	3 1/2
Houston	42	39	.519	19 1/2	New York	4	6	.400	3 1/2
Northwest Division					Central Division				
y-Oklahoma City	55	26	.679	—	Cincinnati	7	3	.700	—
x-Denver	50	31	.617	5	Chicago	5	5	.500	2
x-Portland	47	33	.588	7 1/2	Milwaukee	5	5	.500	2
Utah	38	43	.469	17	Pittsburgh	5	5	.500	2
Minnesota	17	64	.210	38	St. Louis	4	6	.400	3
Pacific Division					Houston	2	8	.200	5
y-L.A. Lakers	55	25	.688	—	West Division				
Phoenix	39	42	.481	16 1/2	Colorado	7	2	.778	—
Golden State	35	46	.432	20 1/2	Los Angeles	6	4	.600	1 1/2
L.A. Clippers	31	50	.383	24 1/2	Arizona	4	5	.444	3
Sacramento	24	57	.296	31 1/2	San Diego	4	5	.444	3
					San Francisco	4	6	.400	3 1/2
x-clinched playoff spot					Yesterday's Games				
y-clinched division					Colorado 7, N.Y. Mets 6				
z-clinched conference					Chicago Cubs 5, Houston 4				
Yesterday's Games					St. Louis 8, Arizona 2				
Miami 98, Atlanta 90					Cincinnati 3, San Diego 2				
Charlotte 105, New Jersey 103					L.A. Dodgers 6, San Francisco 1				
Orlando 95, Philadelphia 85					Texas 2, Detroit 0				
Washington 95, Boston 94, OT					Tampa Bay 16, Boston 5				
Cleveland 110, Detroit 101					Oakland 2, Chicago White Sox 1,				
Milwaukee 93, Toronto 86					10 innings				
Utah 90, New Orleans 78					Cleveland 4, L.A. Angels 0				
Dallas 98, Houston 91, OT					Seattle 8, Toronto 7				
Denver 134, Golden State 111					BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				
Phoenix 135, Minnesota 127, OT									
Oklahoma City 120, Sacramento 112									

TAWANPIY

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ken through the front nine net score with Tigilau posting 36.5 against the 37 and 38.5 of Kapileo and Olopai, respectively. The 22-handicapper Kapileo scored a 48 on the front and 39

on the back for a gross 97 and net 75. Tigilau logged 43 and 45 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 88 and deducting his 13 handicap, he also ended up with a net 75. Other RGA members who joined the April qualifier and their net scores in parenthesis were Ulysis Kapileo (81), Tom

Tebuteb (79), Jess Wabol (84), Sonny Flores (82), Carl Hocog (79), Manny Mangarero (81), and Ned Norita (82). Stephens and Tigilau won the closest to the pin contests on holes No. 3 and 12, respectively. Meanwhile, RGA is still open for membership at \$25 per year. The club also re-

Yamagishi tops 2011 CWGA golf tourney

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



Dolores Yamagishi topped the CNMI Women's Golf Association's 4th Annual Two-Day Golf Tournament held last Sunday at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort.

Yamagishi totaled a net score of 148 to win the competition. Eun Ae Chang finished runner-up with her 149, while total gross score winner Noriko Togawa finished in third place overall with a net 152.

Togawa's low-gross 158 actually broke a three-way tie among total gross runner-up Masayo Miyamoto (169) and fifth place finisher Terry Guerrero.

Shiori Onoue, meanwhile, finished a stroke behind Miyamoto for third place in the gross score category, Yuko Togawa was in fourth with a 171, and Lorraine Babauta wound up in fifth with 174.

The Top 5 gross and net finishers all received prizes for their efforts, while first place winners also took home glass trophies.

Onoue, meanwhile, was named the 2010-2011 season Total Points winner with 108 points accrued during the season.

She was presented with the first place trophy and a brand new white golf bag with cover

» Onoue No. 1 in total points



Dolores Yamagishi, second from left, smiles with her first place net score trophy along with, from left, CWGA vice president Kyung Ran Seo, president Lorraine Babauta, and treasurer Terry Guerrero during the awards ceremony held poolside at LaoLao Bay Golf Resort.



Shiori Onoue, second left, smiles with, from left, CWGA vice president Kyung Ran Seo, president Lorraine Babauta, and treasurer Terry Guerrero after being declared the CNMI Women's Golf Association's 2010-2011 Total Points winner.

provided by LaoLao Bay Golf Resort during the awards ceremony and dinner banquet held poolside at the Kagman facility Sunday night.

Yamagishi came in second in total points for the season with her 94 points, while Seon He Jeong settled for third with an 87. The Top 3 place finishers all received trophies and small prizes.

The rest of the Top 10 included Sherlyn Jones (85), Yuko Togawa (84), Bobbie Guerrero (84), Grace Wang (83), Noriko Togawa (82), Jeong Yi Su (68) and Masayo Miyamoto (66).

Onoue and Noriko Togawa were also recognized with Loyalty awards and prizes for being the only two members with perfect attendance in all 12 events throughout the season.

Moreover, Onoue also won closest to the pin on west course's hole No. 13 with a tee shot that rested 39'2" from the cup.

Other closest to the pin winners included two-time winner Kamiko Abe on the west's hole No. 17 (3'1") and east's hole No. 15 (15'5"), Yuko Togawa on the west's hole No. 3 (43"), Miyamoto on the west's hole No. 7 (10'5"), Jeong on the east's hole No. 4 (9'8"), Sherlyn Jones on the east's hole No. 6 (26'8"), and Noriko Togawa on the east's hole Np. 11 (29'10"). All nearest to the pin winners were awarded complimentary prizes.

After the awards ceremony, CWGA president Babauta expressed thanks and appreciation to the members, sponsors, family, friends, and volunteers.

She also offered complimen-

tary gifts to volunteers Ben Jones, Larry Hocog, Manny Blas, Pete Babauta, and Joe Sablan for all of their commitment and support. The president

See **YAMAGISHI** on Page 26

13 Tinian students qualify for All Schools

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



Tinian held its qualifying tournament for the 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships last weekend with 13 students making the grade.

Earning a trip to Saipan for the All Schools tournament that will take place on May 6 and 7 were Adam Cabrera, Joel Ignacio, Alonica Anore, Jae Hoon Shin, Nikki Quichocho, Alana Takasi, Paul Daniel Ayuyu, Nersherin Pascua, Henry Sandbergen, Donnie Borja, Kyle Sandbergen, Francisco Sanchez Jr., and Jarvis King.

Northern Marianas Athletics, through development officer Elias Rangamar, and Tinian officials facilitated the qualifiers for 24 events and only the top finisher in each contest notched tickets to the All Schools meet. Additional slots, specifically in middle distance races, will be available depending on the results of Saipan qualifiers.

Cabrera of Tinian Junior High School qualified in four events; 100m, 200m, and 400m runs, and javelin. He timed in at 13.34 seconds and 27.01 seconds in the boys U14 100m and 200m races, respectively, and then tallied 1:09.08 in the 400m run to beat 1:13.3 of Henry Sandbergen. In the javelin, he posted 26.30m.

In the boys U18 100m qualifying run, Ignacio submitted 13.72 seconds to prevail over Shin (13.74 seconds), Sanchez (13.99), Hermes Ramos (14.34), Chris Barcinas (14.37), Eric Hofschneider (14.46), Ervin Cruz (14.67), Nick Ayuyu (15.37), and Josue Cruz (16.02).

In the 200m race, Shin redeemed himself, taking the first place finish with a time of 27.17 seconds. He won over Ignacio (27.28), Sanchez (27.41), Barcinas (27.85), Nicky Reyes (29.69) and Hofschneider (30.10). Shin notched his second win in the 800m race when

he logged 1:13.30 against the 1:22.50 of Barcinas.

Other run events top finishers were Anore (girls U18 200m/35.82 seconds), Nikkie Quichocho (girls U14 400m/1:38.20), Takasi (girls U18 800m/3:59.10), and Paul Daniel Ayuyu (boys U18 800m/3:21.60).

In field events, Pascua qualified in two competitions. She recorded 2.70m in the girls U14 long jump and 13.33m in discus, beating the 12.66m of Quichocho. Quichocho topped the shotput event, registering 6.14m against the 6.12m of Pascua.

In the long jump, Anore won the girls U18 with her 3.08, downing Yun Ha Seo (3.01m) and Takasi (2.73m), while Paul Daniel Ayuyu (5.08m) prevailed in the boys division against Ramos (4.68m), Sanchez (4.49m), and Ervin Cruz (4.33m).

In the boys U14 long jump, Henry Sandbergen recorded 4.49m to defeat Cabrera (4.47m) and the former also won the discus trial with his 20.00m. In the girls U18 discus, Takasi logged 16.87m to thwart Seo (10.10m).

Borja posted his first win in the qualifier after tallying 9.49m in the boys U18 shotput and beating Ignacio (9.30m), Kyle Sandbergen (8.54m), Josue Cruz (7.94m), and Ervin Cruz (7.34m). Kyle Sandbergen came back from a third place finish with a best heave in the discus at 24.62m.

In the boys U14 javelin, Sanchez recorded 20.40m to win over Ramos (19.65m), while King ruled the boys U18 with his 28.10m.

"I would like to thank Julian Hofschneider, Eric San Nicholas, Josh Zietlow, Ed Temengil, the volunteers, and students for making our Tinian trip possible and for being such a gracious host. The lack of equipments and regular competitions never dampened the spirits and competitive energy of students as they braved the windy conditions. I wish all the students the best of luck and hope to see them all on Saipan next month," Rangamar said.

DFS Guam wins goodwill softball tournament

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



DFS Guam reclaimed the championship it lost last year after beating DFS Saipan in the 3rd Annual DFS Goodwill Softball Tournament on Saturday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

DFS Guam edged their Saipan counterparts in a best-of-three series, 2-1, to bring home the Proa championship trophy that the hosts won in 2010 when the annual tournament was held at the Yigo Field.

DFS Saipan's home field advantage seemed not to affect the visitors, as it was DFS Guam's second time to win here. In

2009 during the inaugural staging of the goodwill tournament on Saipan, DFS Guam also defeated DFS Saipan, 2-1.

In their third face-off, Guam took Game 1, 17-8, while Saipan recovered in Game 2, 10-2, to force a deciding Game 3.

In the title-clinching match, the visitors dictated the tempo of the game early and then withstood the hosts' rally to eke out a 13-7 run.

After a slim 3-2 lead at the end of the first inning, Guam's was on target at the bottom of the second inning, scoring 10 runs against Saipan's two for a 13-4 lead.

The hosts played catch up since then and moved within three, 7-10, going into the bottom of the fifth inning. However, a three-run over-the-fence homer from Keith

Leon Guerrero gave DFS Guam more distance, 13-7, heading into the last two innings.

DFS Saipan answered with two homers in the sixth inning—one each from J.D. Dikito and Luis Ngirakelau—but both were nullified and the two sluggers were thrown out, as the hosts were already over the limit. Each team was allowed to have only three homers.

By the end of the sixth inning, DFS Guam was still in the lead, 13-7, and DFS Saipan were pressed to score at least six runs to extend the game.

At the top of the seventh, Mei Rengiil led off for DFS Saipan and was beaten to first base. Mae Dikito was next at bat, hit a short ball, and was safe at first. Marino Hiroichi batted third

and hit a grounder. He made it to first, while Dikito was tagged out at second for the second out. The game ended when Char Quitano flied out at left field.

The winning team fielded a 13-player roster to beat DFS Saipan. The list includes Juan Castro, Regina Terlaje, Kiko Francisco, Mike Tulensa, Tiana Chaco, Jerry Loftis, Felix Cruz, Freddie and Edward Malaca, Jane Roque, John Perez, and Preston Antonini.

DFS Saipan listed 20 players on its roster. They were Tyrone Omar, Keith Pangelinan, Boyet Centano, Robert Mojica, Won Joo Jung, Arthur Miron, Millie Faisao, Mlei Betevua, Rose and William Wanket, Lawrence Dikito, Edwin Fujihara, Juan Uribe, and Carol Aguon.



DFS Saipan and Guam players pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the 3rd Annual DFS Goodwill Softball Tournament on Saturday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

April Ace set Sunday



The Fil-Taga Golf Association will hold its April Ace of the Tournament on Sunday, April 17, at the Marianas Country Club.

According to tournament director Ted Malaran, check-in time for the weekend event is 11am with tee time set an hour and 30 minutes later at 12:30am at the Marpi golf venue.

Established in 1993, Fil-

Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the \$35 to \$40 price range for most tournaments. (*Saipan Tribune*)



James scores 34, Heat hold off Hawks

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Yamagishi tops 2011 CWGA golf tourney

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28 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Ada gym closed for 5 months for repairs



The Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium will be closed at the end of this month until September to undergo repairs.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Division of Sports and Recreation clarified yesterday that only the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium not the entire Oleai Sports Complex will be closed to the public.

Sweeps galore in PIC tourney



Jojo Attao, the division's deputy director, said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* that the gym will be closed starting at the end of this month. He said the facility will undergo repairs and rehabilitation, specifically its roof-

ing and restrooms. The repair works are expected to finish by September, so affected groups will not be able to use the facility for about five months.

Attao added he will inform concerned parties about the

See ADA on Page 26

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Junior players Thea Minor and Christian Miller and CNMI coach Jeff Race had outstanding showings in the 11th Annual PIC Tennis Championships as they won all the divisions they entered in during the two-weekend competition at the Pacific Islands Club Court.

Last weekend, Minor completed a perfect 4-for-4 performance in the annual tournament, after she prevailed in the mixed open doubles and women's open singles in Week 2. In Week 1, Minor was victorious in the girls U18 singles and women's open doubles.

The 15-year-old netter teamed up with Race in ruling the round-robin mixed

open doubles. The duo won over Mikayla Lopez and Roy Pangelinan, 6-0, 4-6, 6-2, and against Peter Loyola and Lydia Tan, 6-2, 7-6 (9-7). Then in the women's open singles and U18 finals, Minor swept Lopez on both occasions, 6-2, 6-0 and 6-2, 6-1.

Race duplicated Minor's feat, winning in the men's open doubles and singles, and mixed. He downed Loyola in the singles, 6-2, 6-3, and joined forces with the latter in edging Peter Loken and Lope Padilla in the men's open doubles in Week 1, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

Not to be outdone was Miller, who triumphed in the boys U15 singles and doubles and men's 4.0 singles. He teamed up with Jake Lee in prevailing over Amami Sakano and Daniel Park in the boys U15 doubles,

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Christian Miller returns to Jake Lee during their boys U15 title game in Week 1 of the PIC tournament at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts. Last weekend, Miller and Lee won the boys U15 doubles crown.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hanwa outlasts Hoopaholics, 79-74

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Hanwa Hotel & Resort pulled off its second win in as many outings since the 2011 Miller Lite Friendly Basketball Invitational League started with a 79-74 victory over VFW Post 3457-Joe's Bar Hoopaholics Sunday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

After ending the opening period knotted at 16-all, Hanwa's defense held Hoopaholics to 11 points as they built a 37-27 halftime lead.

Hanwa's Wowie Abuel delivered nine markers in the second quarter. Hoopaholics then battled back to pull within five points, 51-55, in the third quarter. Dave Sablan and Mel Manibusan combined for 16 points in the period.

Despite 18 more points from

See HANWA on Page 26



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Mobil's Jun Estolas creates space underneath the basket in last Sunday's Miller Lite Friendly Basketball Invitational League matchup against Ebisuya Fixers at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Tawanpiy tops RGA April qualifier

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Asterio Tawanpiy showed steady form at the Coral Ocean Point Resort Club on Sunday to rule the Refaluwasch Golf Association April Ace qualifying tournament.

The seven-handicapper Tawanpiy shot a 38 on both nines for a gross 76 and net 69, beating 11 other RGA members in the weekend qualifier. He was the lone participant in the Sunday tournament to post a net score in the 60s. His gross 76 was also the best of the day.

With the win, Tawanpiy now holds the score to beat for the

April Ace tournament on April 23, also at COP. Tee time is at 12pm, while check in is at 11am. If Tawanpiy's score is undefeated, he takes home the April Ace title.

Placing second to Tawanpiy in the qualifier was Dwaine Stephens, who carded a net 72. The 13-handicapper fired a 44 on the front and 41 on the back for a gross 85. Rounding out the Top 3 was the 13-handicapper Ray Tigilau, who tallied a net 75 after nailing a 43 and 45 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 88.

Tigilau won the third place via tiebreaker against Ed Kapileo and Tars Olopai. The deadlock for third was broken

See TAWANPIY on Page 26



Tawanpiy